This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.





https://books.google.com

ACCOUNT

OFTHE

PRINCIPLES

OF THE

MORAVIANS:

Chiefly collected from feveral Conversations with Count ZINZENDORF; and from fome SERMONS preached by him at Berlin, and published in London.

BEING AN

APPENDIX

To a TREATISE on

The Necessity of holding fast the Truth.

By GILBERT TENNENT, M. A. Minister of the Gospel in New-Jersey.

Recommended by the Reverend Dr. COLMAN, and other Ministers of Boston.

With a PREFACE, offering some Reasons for this Publication.

LON.DON:

Printed for S. MASON, opposite to Love-Lane, in Woodstreet. MDCCXLIII.

TO THE

READER.

IT was with no small Expectation, that many among us, who have long been mourning over the dying Circumstances of experimental Religion, heard of some uncommon Appearances of its Restoration, in some Parts of Germany. And, on the Arrival of several Missionaries from thence, while the prejudiced, and the careless condemned them, at once, without a Hearing; and many other well-designing and weak People either joined them, or justified them, without due Enquiry and Information; there were some, who thought it their Duty, diligently and impartially, to acquaint themselves with their Principles and Practices, that they might not, on the one hand, neglect any Appearance of God, and the Operations of his Spirit, in these declining Times; nor, on the other, receive such as his Messengers, who might be engaged in the Introduction of Error and Consuson among us.

They had learned from God's holy Word, that Satan could transform himself into an Angel of Light; and the Experience of the primitive Churches, as well as the frequent Cautions of the Apostles, in those Times, taught them, that Men might, under very plausible Appearances, crastily and privily, bring in the most dangerous Doctrines, and delude weak, tho' honest, Minds into Measures, which might have a Tendency to the Subversion of the Gospel of Christ. The Reasonableness, therefore, of such an impartial Examination, will, it is to be hoped, appear to all,

A 2

scho bave the Interest of true Religion at beart.

Ard

And it must be acknowledged, that the venerable and specious Pretext of Antiquity, the extraordinary Appearance of Sanstity and Self-denial, in the People who have gone among us under the Name of the Moravian Brethren, and whose Principles are the Subject of the Examination of the following Pages, together with the indefatigable Labours of their Leaders, carry in them a fair Shew of Piety and Sincerity. And as, I hope, I would be one of the last; that should be found in an Opposition to any laudable Attempts, to restore primitive Purity in Dostrine and Practice; so, I persuade myself, it will be allowed me, that we never can be too early, in warning our Fellow-Christians of any dangerous Innovations, which manifestly threaten either. But, tho' it is not my Defign, at present, to detain the Reader from what follows, by a particular Recital of the many and strange Delusions of these People, or to anticipate what he will meet with there; yet, as I apprehend the Interest of Religion is greatly concerned, I will take the liberty to offer to bim two or three Objections to their Pretentions; and they are such as, I assure him, flow from a very free and impartial Inquiry into the Scheme they have laid, and the Manner in which they are carrying it on.

The First, then, arises from the laboured Endeavours they use to hide their Opinions, their constant Unwillingness to lay open their Sentiments plainly and fairly, and to suffer them to be examined by Scripture and Reason; which is well known to be contrary to the standing Rule, and constant Practice of our Saviour, and his Apostles, and of the truly Faithful in all Ages. This artful Method has indeed been very frequently taken by Men, who have had Errors to introduce into the World, and especially when they have been of such a Nature, as would have greatly shocked Mankind, had they been opened at once. And this I am afraid is too evidently the Case here: but at the same time it must be observed, how very ill such a Condust becomes those, that come out with such uncommon Pretensions to Simplicity, as these People. And, it puts me in mind of what, I remember to have heard, many Years ago, from a very worthy and learned Man, who had much Controverfy with the Quakers, viz. That "it was more difficult to get them fairly to own, and declare their
Principles, than it was to confute them." Truth
and Purity need no fuch Disguise: and therefore, if all other
Professor of Christianity are involved in so much Darkness
and Danger, as the Moravians would have us believe,
why don't these great Pretenders to Light and Holiness,
instead of instinuating themselves into the Affections of the
Weak and the Unstable, and creeping into Houses, in order to lead captive silly Women, rather lay their Scheme
open to the whole World, that it may be fairly tried by the
Word of God, and may be received, or rejected, in propotion to the Support it appears to have, or not to have from
thence?

Again, the' Truth ought to be embraced, from whatever Quarter it comes, and tho' the Teachers of it may be able to plead no exact local, or lineal Succession, from any of those Churches which have preserved the most remarkable Purity, in times of the greatest and most general Apostacy; yet it seems to me very far from being agreeable with the Sincerity which the Gospel requires, for these People to pretend to be the proper Successors of the ancient Churches of Bohemia and Moravia, who derived their Principles and Order from the Waldenses; when it can be made appear, that the Plan on which their whole System is framed, was laid at Count Zinzendorf's House, no longer ago than the Year 1725. And a Comparison of their Tenets with the Confessions of the famous Waldenses, as you have them recorded in Monsieur Perrin's History of those ancient Churches, will, I believe satisfy any impartial Enquirer, what a slender Title they have to such a Succession.

And further, the Moravian Leaders, I am persuaded, dare not deny, that the Persons may be admitted, upon pretty easy Terms, into what they call their Bands, in order to Instruction, and Preparation for more close Fellowship; yet they receive none into their intimate Church-Communion, but such as profess a sinless Persection, or an absolute Freedom from offending God, by any sinful Assion, Word, or Thought; and that they are also 1 offess' dof

a full Affurance of their own Salvation. And such Persons indeed, as can believe the former of these, may, I think, be reasonably supposed, to have no Hesitation about the latter.

But the Astonishment of the Reader will still more increase, when he is informed, that those, who are thus admitted into their Communion, must believe that Infallibility is lodged in the Church, with which they join; and that they are therefore obliged, on their Admission, to resign up their Persons, their Families, and their Estates to the Disposal of the Church. Thus they must believe, as the Church believes, and do as the Church commands; and this not only in spiritual, but intemporal Matters likewise; fo that they may not enter into a civil Contract of any considerable Moment, without the common Consent: Their Persons are disposed of in Marriage by the Direction of the Community; they having renounced the Right of choosing, in so tender a Case, for themselves: and, in surther Violation of the Laws of Nature, as well as the Laws of God, their Children are not their own, but become the Property of the Church. Nay, their Proselytes having given themselves up in this manner, and having renounced all Will of their own, are frequently transplanted, by the Direction of the Church, into foreign Nations, and sometimes into the most remote Parts of the World; and a Resusal of Com-pliance with these things, is attended with the most severe Censure. In a word, Reading and Reasoning being in a good measure, if not quite, laid aside, they have their Understandings and their Faith determined, in all Dissiculties, by the same Authority.

From an affecting Apprehension of the Progress of such a dangerous Scheme as this, I might add many more Particulars, respecting their Principles and their Order; the unwarrantable Suppression of the Passions, and the silent Stupidity they enjoin; their Neglect of Prayer; and when they do use it, their consining their Addresses, almost wholly, to the Second Person of the sacred Trinity, however to the utter Neglect of the Divine Father; the artful Regulation of their Convents, and the various religious Officers of both Sexes, which they have appointed, without

without any Authority from the Word of God: I might speak of their adventrous Use of the Lot, and their Confessions; their Method of discovering and purging out the accursed thing, and their Vow of Sincerity, by drinking a Glass of Liquor at their Love Feasts, with a Wish, that it might be to them like the bitter cursed Water of Jealousy under the Law, if they are insincere. But if what has been already said appears to be true, as I am satisfied it will, to such as make proper Inquiry, it is, certainly, high Time for all serious Christians to be upon their Guard, and to watch against such dangerous Attempts upon true Religion, and Civil Liberty.

The worthy Author of the following Piece is sufficiently recommended by those eminent Divines of New-England, whose Names are subscribed to the ensuing Preface: To which, for the sake of many here, who may he in Danger of being drawn aside, I shall add the Testimony of the Reverend Mr. Whitefield to bis Character, in a late Paper, printed for Mr. S. Mason, in Wood-street, and entituled, A Vindication and Confirmation of the Remarkable Work of God, in New-England: Wherein he tells us, that he "has the Happiness of being per-"fonally, and intimately acquainted with Mr. TENNENT; "that he is a folid, learned, and truly holy Man; that he " scarce knows one of a more Catholick Spirit; that he is, indeed, a Son of Thunder, but withal a Work-4 man that needs not be ashamed, and is taught of God " rightly to divide the Word of Truth;" and, to this excellent Character, he adds bis Prayers, "that he might "be followed a thousand times more than himself."

It were to be wished, indeed, that the good Man had softened the Severity of some Expressions, in this Work: but the candid Reader will impute that Warmth, to the just Apprehensions he has of the Importance of the Subject. May his faithful and honest Intention, he followed with the Divine Blessing, for the Recovery of those who have been captivated by these Delusions, and the Preservation of other well-meaning Christians from Dangers, to which they might be greatly exposed, for want of such seasonable Information,

Digitized by Google THE

THE

PREFACE,

BY

Several Eminent DIVINES of New-England, recommending this APPEN-DIX, together with the Sermons, to which it was annex'd in the Boston Edition.

Occasion given for the following Sermons and Appendix, by the Arrival of the Moravian Brethren in these American Regions; of whose emerging out of the Darkness and Errors of Popery we had heard with Joy in Years past; yet we cannot but rejoice that God has animated his Servant, our dear and honoured Brother Mr. Tennent, to appear as he here does in Desence of the great and important Dostrines of the Gospel, long since afferted in the publick Confessions of the Resormed Churches of Great Britain, France, and Holland; and which have been from Time to Time vindicated in the Writings of their most pious and learned Divines.

We heartily wish that the Honourable Count Zinzendorf, and the Brethren who have attended him hither, had but given a due Attention to the Light of Gospel Truth held forth to 'em in these united Declarations: But if they are covertly or openly bringing in dangerous Heresees, subverting the Souls of our People; they must not wonder if we freely withstand them to their Face, altho' they come Strangers among us, and also with a Face of Meekness and Love.

Face of Meekness and Love.

We hope we have learnt the Apostolical Injunctions to us, on the one hand and on the other; and there is certainly a blessed and persect Consistency between them; * "Let brotherly Love" continue: Be not forgetful to entertain Strangers; but remember them that are in Bonds as bound with them:—Hold fast the faithful Word as thou hast been taught; that you may be able by sound Doctrine both to exhort and convince Gainsayers; for there are many unruly and vain Talkers and Seducers, whose Mouths must be stoped from subverting whole Houses, teaching Things which they ought not;—wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the Faith.

May the LORD bless to these Brethren Strangers, and also to the more immediately endanger'd Flocks in the Jersies and Pennsylvania, this Labour of Love, and Effort of holy Zeal; for the Conviction of the one, and for the Preservation of the other, from the wild and frightful Errors which are here testified against and resuted, with the Fervour of One that has learnt to contend earnestly for the Faith once delivered to the Saints; and with the Light of a wise Master-builder on the Foundation

[#] Heb. xiii. 1, 2, 3. Titus i. 9, 10, 11, 13.

The PREFACE.

dation which CHRIST and his Apostles have laid.

When this our dear BROTHER, whose Praile is in our Charches through the Provinces, visited us at Boston Two Years ago, and in the Spirit of the Reverend Mr. WHITEFIELD entered into his Labours here; it pleased GoD in a wonderful manner to crown his abundant Services with Succels, in the Conviction and (we trust) Convertion of many Souls: As therefore the Name of Mr. Tennent is greatly endeared to us, so we beseech our ascended SAVIOUR, the HEAD of the Church, long to continue Him for a burning Light and extensive Bleffing to our Provinces; and in particular to use this faithful, judicious, and seafonable Endeavour of his Servant, for a Guard and Defence about his own facred Truths, and his glorious Work, in the midst of us, which too many are ready to speak evil of and oppose.

Boston, Dec. 22,

Benjamin Colman,
Thomas Prince.
John Webb,
William Cooper,
Thomas Foxcroft,
Joshua Gee.

SOME

SÓME

ACCOUNT

OF THE

PRINCIPLES

OF THE

MORAVIANS, &c.

THINK it necessary to give an Account of some of the Errors which Count Zinzendorf, not long since, expressed in New-Brunswick; some of which I heard him assert myself, and the rest were heard by Mr. Henerick Visher, a Person of good Intelligence and Probity. The Count not giving Liberty for two to be present with him at one Time, when Questions were ask'd about religious Matters, there was no room left for a joint Testimony to all the following Articles.

The mischievous Effects of the Moravian Conversation in some Places in this part of America, in corrupting religious Persons with false Notions of Divine Things, and in making unhappy Divisions among them, together with their extraordinary Method of concealing (generally) their pernicious Principles, is, I think, a sufficient Apology for the present Essay, to discover them to the World, in the Manner I have now taken. The Particulars are these following:

1. 'That it is not needful to preach the Law, but hurtful, under the Gospel Dispensation.

B 2

2. That

Digitized by Google

12 Some Account of the Principles

2. 'That the Law is not a Rule of Life to a Believer.

That the Unconverted are not under the Law,
 during the Gospel Dispensation.

4. That the Moral Law belongs only to the Jews.

- 5. 'That Conviction is not necessary to Conver-'fion, but very hurtful; and that the *Pres-*'byterian Doctrine respecting preaching of the 'Law, is false.
- 6. 'That those who are justified, are justified from Eternity in the fight of God, and actually at the Time of the Crucifixion of our Lord.
- 7. 'That Faith is not a Mean or Instrument of Justification.
- 8. 'That Faith is only a Mean of the comfortable 'Enjoyment of Justification.
- 9. 'That Faith is not necessary to Justification or Salvation.
- o. 'That the Nature of Faith confifts in a Per-'fwasion or Belief, that our Sins are pardon-'ed, and that Christ died for us.' It being objected, that if the Nature of Faith confists in the aforesaid Perswasion, then when it was gone, Faith would be lost: He reply'd, 'That 'the Nature of Faith might be lost, but not

the Thing itself, or Being of it.

That there is no such thing as Spiritual Pre-

' fumption.

12. That no graceless Creatures had historical Faith, but the Devils.

'from all, by the Death of Christ; that his
'Cross was the Period or End of it.

14. 'That a Man is converted as foon as he has an
'abiding Sense of his Sin and Danger: for he
'asserted, that the Sense aforesaid flows from
'a Principle of divine Life.

15. 'That the Conversion of the Reformed Church, 'by a preparatory Law-work, was only a De-'lusion; and that there was none of the 'MoraMoravian Brethren converted that way that he knew of.

16. 'That the exercifing of Reason in the Apprehension of any Danger, was not necessary to Conversion; because he said it was done in the Twinkling of an Eye, without preceeding Preparatives.

That a converted Person cannot sin against Light; and that if they finned, they thought

what they did was good.

18. 'That David was unconverted when he com-' mitted Adultery, and Peter when he denied his Master; and that Paul speaks of himself. as unconverted, in the whole feventh Chapter to the Romans: That he himself was a Sinner, and would be fo to Eternity, and that we shall need Christ as much then as 'now.' The Count being asked, whether a converted Person could sin? He said, 'that he could if the Lord Jesus left him, but ' that he was fure he would not.

19. 'That Old Testament Instances might be brought

' for Illustration, but not for Proof.
20. 'That Christ laid down his Life for all the Off-' spring of Adam; nevertheless that there was a certain Election, but no Reprobation.

The aforesaid Particulars are not Consequences drawn from the Count's Words, but his own express Declarations, and that for the most part in answer to Questions asked of him; several of which he reasoned a little upon.

Here I shall beg leave to subjoin the Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Stockers, Merchant, of Amsterdam, (a Person of good Character) dated August 1741, to Mr. George Brinkerboff, Merchant, of New-York, relating to the Moravians or Herenbooters, translated from the Dutch.

As to the Herenbooters, much might be faid beyond the Bounds of a Letter. The Pastoral Let-

ter is a lively Representation of them. Mr. Ku-

- e lencamp, the Author of that Letter, has wrote two other small Tracts against them; and also the
- · Reverend Mr. Knypers; and three Professors; viz.
- the Reverend Messieurs Honert, Voget, and Gelders, have wrote against them.
- 'I account them a mischievous People, worse than ever the *Labadists* appeared to be, who were orthodox in the point of Justification; but these People
- have a Mixture of many Errors, I shall mention some

of the chief.

" That Man is Part of the Divine Being.

* They hold the Perfection of the Saints in this Life.

'They believe that Saints may fall away; and likewife, that one may be faved in the Profession of the Pagan and Jewish Religion.

· They believe that all Men, yea, and even the ve-

"ry Devils, will be faved.

- 'Who will not be aftonished at such Propositions, from Men who give themselves out for absolved
- Christians, who are bought by the Price of the Blood of the Lamb! and who are simple and harmless,

while they are full of Subtlety, and cherish a Com-

' plication of Errors.

- 'They are also infincere, and inconsistent with themfelves, proposing That at one time, which at another time they will deny; going about with Un-
- truths; having little Regard for the Truths of the
- written Word, pretending that they have Christ with-
- in them, to be a living Bible; and fuch-like Things as these.
- 'Their Meetings are no more fuffered amongst us, being neither instructive nor profitable. They will
- read a Chapter out of the Bible, particularly out of
- the New Testament; upon which they speak in some consused Manner, sing some of their Hymns, and it
- 'may be they will pray, which has but little in it.

' See here in brief something of them.

· They

They were treated in a mild and in a friendly Manner, but would not suffer themselves to be exsamined. 'Tis true, they don't belong to the Reform'd Church, but they pretend to go between the Lutheran and the Reform'd Church, and that they are e neither of the one nor of the other, but that they come nearest the Lutberan. The Lord be praised, they have not triumph'd, for by that Means all Re-6 ligion would have been in Confusion, and the fundamental Truths taken away; by which the Church must either stand or fall. Therefore away with such! Or, as the Apostle expresses it, from such turn away. Thus far with respect to the Herenbooters.

Mr. Samuel Finley, a Preacher of the Gospel, informs me, in a Letter from Philadelphia, bearing Date

Feb. 15, 1742.

That he had some Discourse with Count Zinzendorf, by an Interpreter (he refusing to discourse with him in Latin, because he was a Presbyterian), the Sum of which was as follows:

1. The Count being asked, 'whether the Apostle fpake of himself as unconverted, through the whole feventh Chapter of his Epistle to the Romans? He answered in English; Yes, doubtless, as unconverted.

2. Respecting Perfection. The Count would seem to grant, that 'true Christians had Sin; and yet when I laboured to prove this, he would again fet up a-

s gainst me: This was just the Case.

3. I enquired 'whether David was graceless when he committed Adultery? He answered, Yes. And all the Distinction he used respecting this, was, that there was Grace in store for David, but that he had

• not then received it.

4. I enquired about Justification, whether it was eternal? He answered, Yes.

5. I ask'd, 'of what Use Faith was in Justification? Le answered, That it was a Manisestation of it.

6. 'I Digitized by Google

6. I enquired, 'whether one that had Justification manifested clearly to his Conscience, could ever doubt of it? He answered, that he might afterwards doubt of it.

Lastly, I enquired, 'whether the Saints would have 'need of Faith to all Eternity? He answered, Yes; and insisted on it: But by this time it was Nine of the Clock at Night, and our Conversation ended.

Here I shall add some Extracts, out of a Moravian Book, thus intituled;

Sixteen Discourses on the Redemption of Man by the Death of Christ. Preach'd at Berlin, by the Right Reverend and most Illustrious Count Zinzendorf, Bishop of the ancient Moravian Church. Translated from the High-Dutch. With a Dedication to the Archbishops Bishops, and Clergy, giving some Account of the Moravian Brethren. London: Printed for James Hutton, 1740.

This Book is prefaced and speed by Ludovicus de Zinzendorf.

For the Reader's Ease, I will set down the Count's Words in one Column, and my own Remarks on them in another.

Here the Count afferts, that the Saints are poor and needy in Heaven.

Here Perfection is afferted. 'Tis likewise supposed in this Paragraph, Preface, Pages second and third.

That the only Way to Salvation for all Mankind, is that for the

'Merits of the facrificed Lamb,

' they obtain Grace and Remission

of all their Sins, and remain his poor needy dependant Creatures in

'Time and Eternity.

Preface, p. 3. 'That it is no wonder that all those who know

what Sin is, and have obtained Permission not to sin any more,

refraix

Digitized by Google

" refrain from Sin, and lead a god-'ly Life,-

P. 11. 'We cannot deny, that 'we still have Sin, 1 Joh. i. 8. ' and that we shall carry it to the

'Grave.—Our very Nature, and ' the whole Mass of Man, is in-

• fected with the Poison of the fin-' ful Matter; the best Remedy a-

' gainst which, is its Fermentation

'in the Grave, that thus our Sa-'viour may produce fomething

' better.

P. 12. 'For this Purpose the Son of God was manifested, that ' he might destroy the Works of

'the Devil, 1 70b. iii. 8. to dif-

' folye and tear the System of Sin

to pieces, that in the Faithful · Lust cannot be conceived, nor Sin

bringing forth Death, 7am. i. 15.

"Matth. v. 28. it that Sin must be always ke under foot,

and in subjection, and so lose its

'Dominion and Power more and ' more, that it dare not stir, or

' always expect a new Death. The

' faithful Believer dare not so much

'as give ear to Sin, much less to

enter into any Struggle with it.

P. 16. 'This is the very Rea-

fon why fo many Souls are loft,

'not because they have sinned, but

' because of their Unbelief-But it

' is also true, that finning is not the

' Cause of Rejection according to

' the New Testament.

P. 17. 'The Wicked and Sineners have the first, the most, and that God is not the Author of Holiness which is in his People.

Here Perfection is deny'd. A new Purgatory discover'd. And Sin afferted to be fomething material.

Perfection affert-

Persons not rejected for Sin, but Unbelief: Hereits insinuated, Unbelief is no Sin; and yet the Cause of Rejection.

Gross Impiety the directest Road to to obtain Grace and Mercy.

Sin no Hindrance, and moral Virtue of no Service, to obtain Grace.

Free-will afferted.

Universal Salvation afferted.

Spiritual Sloth neceffary in order to obtain Grace.

Enthusiasm encouraged, in a pretended waiting upon the Voice of God, without the Use of Means.

Those not Witnesfes of Christ, who urge the Use of Means, in order to obtain Grace.

A preparatory Work ambiguously and siily denied.

The active Obedience of Christ excluded from being a Cause of Salvation. The Moravians speak

the nearest Right, and obtain bis Grace soonest and easiest.

P. 19. None for his little Good is better, and none for his many Enormities worse.

P. 23. 'The Apostles re-'commend his Salvation in all

' their Words and Writings, that

'every one may have a Right to

'For Jesus is the universal'
'Restorer of all Mankind.

P. 29. 'He will do all by his Spirit, fend a Fire upon

the Earth, pour out his Love into all Hearts, nay, endow

the Dead with the Breath of Life. Here one must do no-

thing but quietly attend the Voice

of the Lord.

'Our Saviour himself must make the Beginning of such a Salvation. For none of his Witnesses require of Men, that they should begin to help themselves, but our Saviour says, I will

draw all Men after me; they fhall only suffer themselves to be

' delivered and reconciled.

· Wherefore it is not Gospel-· like to prescribe Rules, Methods

" and Dispositions, or require an Equality of Souls. We must

' leave all that to the free Grace

of our Redeemer, how he may and will lay hold of Souls.

P. 31. 'The original Cause of all Grace is only to be sought for in the Merit and Satisfattion of Christ; he in his bloody 'Cross

 ${\sf Digitized\ by\ } Google$

* Cross and Passion must be all ' in all to us, and the only Cause

6 of our Salvation.

'Wherefore he that under-' flands the Mystery of the Cross

' and Wounds of Christ, can ne-

' ver want Comfort and Relief,

' even tho' he were the greatest

Sinner, for Christ is the Pro-' pitiation for all Sins past and

future to all Eternity.

'On the Cross he made a 'Confession for all the World,

' when he faid, Father, forgive

* them. And when he cried out, 'tis finished, He gave Absolution

to all wicked Rebels.

' Upon this Confideration we eneed not be anxious, lest Souls ' should not be humbled and con-

trite enough for their Sins.

'In receiving Grace, all must feel a certain degree of Humilia-

'tion, as much as our Saviour

' fees necessary for them, to

'their new Creation.

P. 32. 'The ordinary Method of our Saviour is not to prescribe Souls a long Preparation and

' Form of Repentance, but, it costs

bim oftentimes but one Word,

and Grace is prefent and takes

' away all Sins.

P. 33, 34. 'The Name Je-' sus is his own proper Name,

which he bears as our Flesh

' and Blood, for the Benefit of

' all Men, be they ever so dead,

' fick, or ever fo miserable and

finful; by this his Name all

much of the Blood and Wounds of Christ, but as to his active Obedience they are filent.

Christ a Propitiation for Sins after Death. Here the Salvation of the Damned, is insinuated.

The actual Justification of all, from the Time of Christ's Death.

A preparatory Work unnecessary.

A preparatory Work necessary.

A preparatory Work, ordinarily, unnecessary.

Universal Salvation, expresly afferted.

Imme-

Immediate Inspiration infinuated.

Holiness no Duty. The Law the Caufe of Sin.

Such whose Contest with Sin Paul describes in the feventh of the Romans, no true Christians.

Perfection attained by all true Christians.

A Conquest over Sin easy; for such as get their Necks out of the Collar of the Law.

' can and shall obtain Life and Salvation.

P. 36. The Count, speaking of Elders or Ministers, fays, 'They dare speak nothing,

but what Christ works in them. P. 41. Speaking of a Member of Christ, he sayeth, ' Faith 'is his Duty, and Holiness his 'Nature; and whereas other ' Men dispute with Sin, wrestle ' and fight against it, and yet ' perhaps are overcome, accord-'ing to the pathetick Defcription of St. Paul, Rom. vii. The ' Members of Christ are assured, ' that fince Death, the Wages of Sin, is under their Feet, all is ' yours, whether Life or Death, ' 1 Cor. iii. 22. Since they flipt ' their Necks out of the Collar of ' the Law, that kept them in Bondage before, (but the Law is the Power of Sin) Sin must with a Word be trod down to ' the Ground, and dare not rife ' till we please our selves. Chri-' stians are Priests of God, who ' daily walk in their holy Ap-

' parel, and lift up boly Hands ' without Wrath and Doubting: they endeavour to be well fet

' tled, and to grow manly, they keep themselves unpolluted ' from all Things, and purify

'themselves in the Blood of

'Christ, because they bear the Lord's Vessels.

P. 42. 'He that has well flearned this double Service of ' the

Free-will afferted.

'the Lord, who can pray and 'fanctify himself unto the Lord, 'will never think it dissicult to be a Witness of the Lord. He

* need not study to find out Words,
* fince the Heart is full of the

'Thing itself. From this Priest-

' hood-Office of the Christians, fome will prove, that they can

'also teach. But that is not the

s closest Proof. 'Tis true, the

' Priests Lips kept the Truth for-'merly; yet Teaching was not

' their proper Business.

P. 43. But they must declare no more than they have experienced themselves,—and about the most plain and easy way to

' attain to that Experience.

P: 49.—, 'Chosen by Grace,
'not only at the Time when Christ
'died, which was the Seal and
'finishing Stamp of our Election,
'but they were elected from the
'Foundation of the World; yet
'all for the Sake of Christ the
'only begotten Son of God, and
'for the Sake of their intimate
'Relation to him.

P. 57. For to believe as certainly that Christ has been a
Man and suffered Death for us,
as one can say of any other
Matter with Truth and Sincerity, that one believes it: This
is the true Means to save us at
once. We want no more; for
Gospel, or the History of Jefus, his Coming into the World,
is the Power of God unto Sal-

To be a Minister of Christ, an easy Task.

Preparatory Studies, unnecessary for Ministers.

The Priests Lips must keep Knowlege; yet, Teaching was no Part of their Office!

Inspiration ambiguously afferted.

The use of Means necessary

An Election at the Time of Christ's Death. Eternal E-lection incompleat. Something besides the goodPleasure of God, the Cause of Election. Eternal Justification infinuated.

That historical Faith is saving.

The Perfection of the Saints; or Christ's Imperfection afferted.

No Means to be used with the Unconverted, either to instruct or awaken'em. Natural Mencanhave no true Knowledge of our Saviour.

Natural Men must not be condemed.

Ministers must not preach Terror.

Pagans free from the Curfe feemingly infinuated. 'vation to every one that believes, Rom. i. 16.

P. 59. 'Wherefore we ought to look upon him as our faith-

'ful High Priest, and believe that

' in the Time of his sojourning up-

on Earth, be was made like unto

' us in all things, in Poverty and in all other Circumstances, his

Children are in at present.

P. 69, 70. 'For to tell Men' who know nothing of Grace, nor have experienced any thing of

its Power and Efficacy, what they should do, and how they

ought to behave; that is as much

' to the Purpose, as if you should 's send a lame Man upon an Er-

rand, or engage a blind Man to

give bis Judgment about Things

which require a sharp Sight.—
He that will condemn natural

' Men, who neither have nor can

' bave the Lord Jesus in their

' Hearts, nor, by their Distracti-

ons in many other Things, can

bave any true Notion of our Sa viour, meddles in an Affair that

doth not at all belong to him.

'The Business of a Witness of Je-

' fus is by no means to denounce
' Judgment, he must first know

what Men he has to deal

' withal.

P. 69. 'But we ought to make 'a Difference between Men, that

'never heard any thing of Jesus,
'nor entred his Communion,

and those who join in a Congre-

gation assembled in the Name of

· Jesus.

' Jesus. It will never do, nor is it consistent with the Meaning and Design of the Apostles to apply all Expressions, Exhortations and Threatnings of theirs, indifferently to our present Times; or treat all People in or out of the Christian Dispensa-

tion alike.— They did not de-

onounce their Bann to People that

' did not belong to them.

P. 70. 'Wherefore, altho' the Threatning of the Apostle might not improperly be applied to us Christians, who use the outward Form, and will not be excluded from God's Family and the Church of Christ; yet I wave that, and only de-

clare to all, that it is apparent,

the old Corruption we have by Nature, and which should have

been, nay, may bave been actu-

' ally taken away by Baptism, ac-

cording to our Doctrine, is yet present and returned again, is

' still pressing, nay, will press

' you down to Hell, as long as

'you are fenfibly convinced in

' your Hearts, you do not love

' the Lord Jesus.

P. 72. 'And every Soul must be able to say with the utmost Chearfulness, He is my Lord.

P. 73. Speaking of knowing Jesus to be our Lord, he says, It is no Matter of great difficul-

ty: and because it is so easy; it is then but a greater Sign of a

Soul's Depravity, of its Curse

All of the Threatnings and Exhortations of the New Testament, not applicable to the present Times.

The Threatnings applicable to formal Christians only.

Original Corruption taken away by Baptism.

The falling away of the Saints.

Persons may be really fanctified, and yet not love the Lord Jesus Christ, suppos'd by this Paragraph.

Full Affurance univerfally necessary to Salvation.

Affurance easy to be attained.

Those that want Assurance, under the Curse.

The

The Nature of Assurance, that it is no more than a common Conviction.

All pious Persons compleatly happy in this Life!

Universal Redemption afferted.

No Means must be used with the Unconverted, to convince them of their Misery.

The Law no Mean of Conviction under the Gospel.

The Blood of Christ the Mean of Conviction. ' and of its spiritual Death, that cannot say, He is my Lord.

'For to have Jesus for my 'Lord, is nothing else but to be

' convinced in my Soul, that he bath shewn me greater Faithful-

'ness, than I have experienced of

' any body else in the whole World.
P. 81. 'But as soon as one

' knows in one's beart one is the

' Lord's entirely, then those out-

' ward Things do no more disturb ' the Mind, but one is a happy

' Man.

P. 88. 'O how were it to 'be wish'd, that the Satisfaction, 'the Grace and the Blood of Jesus

the Grace and the Blood of Jejus Christ shed for them all, were

once so truly present with, and applied to them,—

P. 90. 'As long as People' pursue their sinful Course with

'Pleasure, and do not see their

' Danger, one must have Pati-

'ence with them; for they are not to be perswaded to think

themselves unhappy, and your

'Admonitions would avail as 'little, as a ierious Discourse

' would with a drunken Man.

P. 90, 91: 'They are con-

' and as God did this in the Old

'Testament by the Law, so it is done a thousand times more by

the Gospel. For instead of the

Law, which formerly knock'd

on the Hearts with Force, till

'it found Entrance: -we bave

• now the prevailing Efficacy of

* the Blood of Christ,—
P. 91. 'This Almighty

P. 91. 'This Almighty'
Power of the Blood and Cross

of Jesus, has this first and

bleffed Effect, by which one

fees that the Heart is no longer

quite dead: This convinces People that they are condemn-

ed, miserable, and have no true

' Life.

P. 92, 93. When the Voice of the Son of God enters the

Heart once and faith, Thou

'art undone, and the Man re-

mains convinced of his miserable.

Condition, then is be no longer

' lost but found. A Soul which

with an upright Sincerity ofHeart, acknowledges and can

flay with truth, I have no Part

in the Kingdom of God; I am

condemned; the same is alrea-

dy to be looked upon as a Brother.

P. 93. 'All that a Soul feels 'in that State of her own Con-

demnation, is but a delightful

Scene of eternal Wisdom and

'Grace: whofoever fees a Soul

'in that Condition, cannot but

rejoyce and think: O that poor

* Child, which is oppressed and

bowed down with the Weight

of his Sins and his own Con-

deinnation, the Lamb is now

certainly paying his Ransom for.

'As long as a Soul is not convinced, that she is dead and in

a State of Damnation, the preach-

' ing of Grace will be to no pur-

Convinced Persons are spiritually alive: and at the same time condemned, and dead.

Persons lost, condemned, and that have no part in the Kingdom of God, are sound, and converted: O horrible Jargon!

A Person under Conviction, is a Child of God.

'The Saviour pays a Ranfom in Time, for People under Conviction.' This invalidates the Sufficiency of Christ's Satisfaction on the Cross.

Conviction neceffary in order to receive Grace, and Be-D nefit nefit by the Gospel. Sound Doctrine.

Universal Redemption afferted; and, Universal Salvation infinuated.

The Guilt of Original Sin removed from all, by the Redeemer's Sufferings.

The Popish Doctrine of the Sacraments conferring Grace, from the Work done.

The Saints falling from Grace infinuated.

A new Explication of Original Sin; as mysterious as Jacob Bebmen's Tineture and Turba.

Daily finning furprizing to the *Mora*vians!

The Cause thereof is the Law of God!

The Gospel takes away the Force of the Law.

'n

• pose; and the glad Tidings of • the Gospel will have no Effect • upon her.

P. 95. The Count speaking of the Redeemer's Sufferings and Abasiure, says,—'That all this '(was) with no other View, and 'tonoother End, but to redeem the 'whole Race of Men from Sin, 'Satan, Death and Hell; and to 'take away the Curse from the 'whole Earth; and to restore e-ternal Righteousness, which had

been lost by Sin.—

P. 112, 113. 'There is some'thing in all baptized Christians,
'that they can seldom bear any
'thing of Christ crucified, but they
'must be moved in some degree;
'but if it goes as it comes, they
'cannot excuse themselves like
'the Groenlanders, Laplanders,
'or Hottentots, and say, We have
'understood or felt nothing of it.
P. 117. 'The Grave is that

P. 117. 'The Grave is that old Corruption, opposite to the Blood of Christ, that abominable Lake of Original Sin, natural Men do swim in, and Believers wade thro', as a Sea of Sorrow.

P. 118, 119. 'Tis an ama'zing thing to see People not on'ly sinning every day, but that
'they are not tired with it,—
'but there is a secret Cause of it,
'—if no Law were given in
'Commandments, the wicked Heart
'would remain as it is, and the
'Transgressions would be less fre'quent. But since the Mind of

' Man is of that Disposition, that when any thing is forbid, which 'it had no Knowledge of before, 'it gets presently an Inclination 'towards it; thus we may easily ' apprehend the Truth of what St. ' Paul says, The Strength of Sin is the Law, I Cor. xv. But here the Power of the Gospel fleps in, takes away the Force of the Law, sets the Soul at ' liberty, turns her Face from all the Ordinances to the Heart, to the Unction, to the Sense of Grace from time to time, as 6 oft as there is an Opportunity, and to the Divine Nature, received from above in the Re-' mission of Sin. Here the laboerious Toil of Sinning loses its Strength and Nourishment, faints 'away and dies. But from • whence doth all this proceed?--'Thanks to the Blood of the Lamb.

P. 120. 'Ye Whoremongers'
and Thieves, ye Revengeful and
Murderers, ye Lyars, and whofoever ye are, ye Fearful and
Unbelieving, that hear and read
this, will ye be faved? Believe
then, that Jefus has atoned and
paid a Ransom for you all, and
that ye may experience it this
very Moment, and know that
ye have been healed by his
Wounds, and his Stripes.—Take
the Absolution, look upon him,
believe and rejoyce, arise, gird
yourselves and run.

'The Gospel turns the Soul from Ordinances, to the Heart, the Unction &c.' This looks like the Light within as a Guide.

As oft as there is Opportunity.

Mysterious Jargon!

Perfection again afferted.

Whoremongers and Murderers must believe that their Ransom is paid, and their Wounds healed.

Prefumption encouraged, as the way to Salvation!

Perfection afferted in the most peremptory mannér.

Perfection afferted.

Free-will afferted.

The Conflict mentioned in the seventh of the Romans, belongs to Philosophers and Pharisees.

An Infinuation against the use of Reason and Pains in opposing of Sin.

Here the Man after God's own Heart is condemned, as a Servant of Sin, because of his Desertion and Temptation! P. 121. 'In short, all turns' to this, that after we have re'ceived Grace, we live now, as
'we should have done before the
'Fall, unblemished and holy, only
'more blessed and more sure.

P. 126. The Count, speaking of the Children of God, sayeth,—
These can dispose themselves in

fuch manner, that by all their

outward Affairs and Transactious in and for God, their

· Heart is always above;—

P. 131. Such a continual Conflict St. Paul relates of himself; when he was a great Philosopher and Teacher among the Pharifees,—He gives a large Actional of its whenever he had

count of it: whenever he had an Inclination to do good, he

could not, and was foon over powered by a contrary Princi-

'ple, which captivated him to do what he would not.

P. 132,133. The Count, speaking of those who will subdue Sin by their own Reason and Understanding, Convictions and Perswasions; by their own strugling and striving against it; says,

'They are subject to all the Danger that can befal a weak and

' feeble Creature, which will re-

fish a greater and stronger Power. They do but expose them-

· selves — They are in the same

· Condition with David, when he fays, the Enemy hath perfecu-

ted my Soul, he hath fmitten

my Life down to the Ground.

' He has laid me in the Dark-'ness, as the Men that have been

' long dead. — All this proceeds

from their being Servants of Sin; they are looked upon as Adul-

' terers; they have no Power to

e leave their Sin their old Huf-

band, and dare not live with

another.

P. 133, 134. 'But he who 'knows the Salvation that Je-'fus has purchased us with his

bloody Death on the Cross,

who has abolished Death, and

brought Life and Immortality

to light, that Sin can have no more Dominon over us, be-

more Dominon over us, because we are no more under the

Law, but under Grace; he un-

derstands the Mystery, how to

eget rid of Sin in a most easy

'manner without any Difficulty,

' Complaint, and Torment; so that

it must give way, must fly and

die; Satan who has it in his

' Hands, and uses to lead Men

'according to his Pleasure, at

· last dare attack us no more.

P. 134, 'Thus when such a poor Soul, which has tired it'felf, and yet effected nothing
'at all, comes to him' (meaning our Saviour) 'according to his
'kind Invitation, the first thing

he doth with us, is, he puts us

upon Patience, presents him-

• felf to us, and fays, this Child

· shall be disturbed no more.

P. 135. — But to whom our Saviour has just given Life, those

To strive against Sin exceeding dangerous.

Moravian Perfection easy to be attained.

The horrible Myftery of the Moravian Gofpel, is to cast God's holy Law behind their Backs!

Moravian Converts quite free from Satan's Temptations!

The Moravian Life no State of spiritual War, but a Life of Quietism or Rest.

Moravian Converts fpiritual Sleepers.

Young

Young Converts in a State of compleat Happiness and Rest.

Moravian Converts at their new Birth, Men in Christ.

It's a Sign of no Grace, to think that Persons at their Conversion, are but Babes in Grace; and do fin sometimes.

Moravian Converts past all Danger.

Moravian Converts free from Sin at their Conversion.

If Sin be not worth a Thought, what becomes of Repentance?

Moravian Mortification of Sin exceeding eafy! be puts to fleep, as it were,—
P. 135. — In Beginners his
Love is so burning, so free and
lively, that those good Souls do
not think without Reason, that
they can hardly advance to a
bigher Degree, or he ever happier in this World. It is true,
none in the most perfect Father's Estate can enjoy more
Rest and Tranquillity from all
his Enemies.
P. 135, 6. "Tis therefore Fol-

'ly, and a Sign of no Experience

' at all, when they say, that Man

' is not very far advanced, and is but a Beginner. For this Rea-' son be doth this or that Sin, has 'this or that Frailty in him. A Beginner is in his best State; a Beginner in the Kingdom of 'Christ; who but just has re-'ceived Grace and Remission, ' whom our Saviour has but just ' laid upon his Shoulders to car-'ry him home with Joy, he 'lives in fuch Security, which 'no Man can imagine; he is ' past all Danger, and can say ' with David, Thou hast lifted ' up mine Head from the Gates

P. 137. 'Sin is the most miferable and mean Thing under the Sun, not worth our Thoughts; and if any thing comes to put us in mind of any past Sin, we must treat it as the most contemptible Thing, and kill it as a Fly.

of Death.

A Thought may come flying, and there once may appear

again somewhat of the Seeds of

Satan, of his Craft or Violence; but it is crush'd immediately

• but it is cruff a immediately • under foot.

P. 137, 138. The Count, speaking of a Soldier of Jesus Christ, says, that he doth not so much as look upon Sin, nor

thinks it worthy of one Cast of his Eyes. The Faith of a

Child of God, especially of a

Soldier of Jesus Christ, is so active, when he perceives Sin

afar off upon such Occasions,

where it usually infinuates it-

felf, that anointing is immediately ready to warn us; and

this Intimation of the Spirit is

6 fo powerful, that e'er Sin can

• put itself in any Posture, it's

· routed already by the faithful

· Believer.

P. 138. For Sin remains still in our Members, till we are going to the Grave.

P. 144. 'If we have any of the Vertue and Energy of Bap-

tism still left within us, and do

on not live according to the Mind

of our Redeemer, that will condemn us.

P. 145. The Moment a Soul begins to live, and the

Spirit of God overshadows her,

She hears the Voice of the Son of

God, which speaks of nothing but the Blood of Propitiation.

· Whoever lives and has heard

A Moravian Convert is once exposed to the Temptations of Satan, but obtains an easy Conquest.

Perfection afferted.

A Difference between a Child of God, and a Soldier of Christ.

Sin easily conquer'd.

Sin not worth the Cast of the Eye, how then shall we mourn over it?

Imperfection afferted.

A physical Energy ascribed to Baptism, which may be lost.

The active Obedience of Christ past over in the *Moravian* Instructions.

Here it is suppos'd that

that one may be spiritually alive, and hear Christ's Voice, and yet not acknowledge Christ to be his Lord and Master.

Here one that is spiritually alive, is said to be sensible of his lost State, if he does not acknowledge, $\mathcal{C}c$.

The use of Means rejected, and a Door opened to Licentious-ness.

Wholefome Doctrine against Presumption.

The Law a Mean of Conviction, sometimes.

A little of the Truth must out sometimes.

Angelical Perfection ordinarily attain'd, at Conversion in a Moment.

A good Thought

- the Voice of the Son of God, he foon is fensible of his being loft,
- 'if he doth not acknowledge Je-'s sus to he his Lord and Master,
- 's Jus to be bis Lord and Master.
- 'Here one need not go about to ranfack one's Passions and
- ' Corruptions, nor anxiously en-
- ' deavour to mend one's self. For Grace overflows all our Sins,
- ' they are all cover'd with the
- ' Blood of the Lamb.

P. 153. When Souls are dead, and never yet heard the Voice of the Son of God, they may be told too soon, that they are the Reward of our Saviour.

'This is sometimes our Saviour's Business, by the Law, whereby we are brought into Straights. He shews us our Misery, strips us of all our

- felf-conceited Vertues and Me-
- 'rits, and convinces us that we are Sinners.

P. 155. 'The Lord, who 'would shew us the Method of faving Souls, reply'd immedi-

- fately, Verily I fay unto thee, To-day thou shalt be with me
- 'in Paradife. Through this Word
- the Thief was as pure as an Angel, and made immediately
- a Companion of our bleffed Re-
- ' deemer; this may give People
- an Occasion to think, that no-

thing more than a good Thought

s at the Point of Death was ree quired to give an Entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven. And it looks very plausible; for this · Instance is not at all extraordie nary, as many well-meaning 'Teachers, to prevent Mischief, endeavour to prove; and that ' fuch an Instance may happen but once in an Age, or that this may be an Instance which ' happened only at the Passion of our Lord. Yet these sorts of Conversion are not at all un- common, but happen frequently, when all Circumstances agree. P. 163. 'In the 5th and 6th Chapters of St. Matthew, we find such Qualities and Doctrines, as can in a strict sense be

the World. A Child of God that is not particularly dedicated to * the Care of Souls, must submit ' to all the Civil Laws, every one is obliged to observe. P. 164. Disciples are a sort of Out-laws .-- According to the ' inward Disposition of Mind, all

e applied to none but Disciples of

" Jesus; e.g. whoever takes any

'thing from you, do not demand

'it again, &c. If this were to be applied to all in general, there 'would soon be an End of all ^c Constitutions and Possessions in

· Christians agree.—But in their outward Testimony they are

different. A Soldier of Christ ' must be ready every Hour to

quit his Right, his Conveniency,

at Death sufficient to obtain Happiness.

The Instance of the Thief not at all extraordinary.

Here's large Encouragement to Sin and Impenitency.

Ministers may not use the civil Law, to acquire their Right.

Moravian Ministers not subject to the Law.

A Difference between Ministers and others, in respect of Civil Rights afferted.

Ministers may neither demand or posfess their Civil Rights, supposed by this Paragraph.

Two

Two forts of Perfons among the *Mo-ravians*, who have no fystematical Connexion of the revealed Word.

Two forts of *Mo-ravian* Converts, not led by the written Word.

The pious Actions of religious Men do not come from God, as the efficient, but permissive Cause.

In the Moravian Judgment, it's a Dream of Moralists, to look upon Holiness to be a Duty.

and deny himself of, and give up every thing, not only in the Heart, but actually; whereas another may demand and possess bis own Peace.

P. 164, 5. 'But we will fee what our Saviour puts us upon ' in his Kingdom, and what we ' may expect of him. Here our Saviour has several Dispensations: one be leads by bis Underfanding; another be visits with ' many spiritual Sensations; to the ' third he gives a systematical Conenection of his reveal'd Word.— 'One doth not chuse his own way, but our Saviour accom-' modates himself to our Capa-'city and Disposition. He that ' is endowed with a penetrating ' Judgment, our Saviour leads by that:—He that wants this, ' and is of another Disposition, the Saviour leads through ma-'ny Senfations and great Impressions of his Grace and Love.

that;—
P. 165. People think, he that ferves our Saviour shall be faved; but whoever doth not ferve him, shall be damned.

· —The third fort, which keep · close to the Word, are led by

But the Lord of his free Grace,
Mercy and loving Condescen-

'tion, gives us Leave and Per-'mission to do good, and to serve 'him. To work God's Work is

'but meer Mercy to any Soul.
'Holiness is a Nature, but not a

Digitized by Google

Duty

Duty, as Morality dreams of.

P. 166. 'He that has Grace,

can be bumble and poor in Spirit, and cannot be otherwise.

P. 173. Righteousness is,

when a Man drops and lofes all
 bis Right which he has by Na-

ture and Reason; and by Faith

* receives from our Saviour that

Affurance, that all his future

Expectations depend intirelyupon his Grace and Mercy.

P. 174. 'He that obtains

the Righteousness in the Blood of Jesus Christ, receives also

Strength to subdue all the Evil,

be knows in himself, and which

. be must constantly study to find

out more and more, and to tread

it under his Feet, till at last,

fafter he has long converfed

with his Saviour, be forgets Sin

· quite.—

P. 175. 'Forasmuch as one 'lives to himself (ἀυτὸς ἔγω) he

is a Sinner; but be that is ju-

fied never meddles with Sin, but

'acts always contrary to it, or if

it begins to ftir, he stifles and

conquers it presently. Now

whoever begins to lose the Ex-

' perience of Evil by the Disuse

of it, be becomes an innocent

' Man in Christ.

P. 176. 'But as foon as our 'Saviour begins to instruct us,

there is no need of many Ar-

'guments, but he does something 'in the Heart which is felt and

s kept without Contradiction.

Free-will afferted.

Perfection and Perfeverance therein afferted.

The first Part of this Paragraph is dark Doctrine.

Perfection afferted.

Increase of the Knowledge of Sin in one's self afferted.

If Sin be quite forgot, what becomes of Repentance?

Perfection afferted.

Moravians lose the
Experience of Evil, by
the Disuse of it, and
so become innocent.

Nospiritual War in good Men.

Per-

Perfection asserted.

Moravian Converts not compleatly happy, but perfectly freed from fleshly Lusts.

Some not capable of Grace. God's Call according to foreseen good Dispositions in the Creature. God's Calldepends upon the Creatures Will.

The perfect Holiness, and perfect Happiness, of all the Saints in this Life afferted.

The Word Fellow-Citizens alludes to Ephef. ii. 9.

No Duty but to believe.

Sincerity, Charity, Humility, &c. no Duties, under the Gospel Dispensation!

We need not be follicitous about any thing besides Faith, viz. Charity, Chastity, Repentance!

Here a difinal Door is opened to all manner of Licentiousness!

P. 178 'Then we willingly leave off finning any more, when our Saviour has once forgiven us all our former Sins.

P. 180. 'The World dare not' pretend to disturb our Happiness' very long, neither dare the Flesh' show itself any more.

P. 188, 9. 'He awakens not' only whole Nations and Countries,—but also every Soul in 'particular; provided be seeth' that they are capable of Grace,

and that they will receive the gracious Call, he draweth and calleth them, let them be in what Condition foever.

P. 192. 'I am now affured, 'that I have now the fame un'changeable Right with all my 'Fellow-Citizens, to be as unin'terruptedly boly as they, and as 'incessantly bappy as they.

P. 193. 'There is but one Du-'ty, which is that of Believing. P. 194. 'The Business of eve-

ry true Christian is to be sincere

and faithful, to exercise Charity, and to do every thing from the Heart,—But all these Things being no Duties; for the Language in the New Testament iays no more, thou shalt be humble, chaste, liberal, and

industrious; but I am deliver-ed by the Blood of the Son of

God, from Pride, Luft, Coveteousness and Laziness: I

dare be humble, chafte, content, and industrious: this Li-

berty

Digitized by Google

berty being purchased for me by the Blood of Jesus. We

bave then no need to be sollici-

tous about any thing but only

' about Faith.

P. 194. 'Luther calls Faith' a divine Work in the Soul, which changes and makes us to be new born of God, Joh. i. 3.—The Means by which this divine Work is effected, is nothing else but Faith, the ordinary way of the divine Œconomy.

'Faith afferted to be the only Mean to effect Faith.' Non-fenfical Jargon!

To fay that any thing is a Mean to produce itself; supposes that it exists before it has a Being; which is impossible in the Nature of Things.

Two of the Count's Companions in Travel, namely, Bishop Nitsman's Wise, and the Count's Daughter, declared at New-Brunswick, in the House of Mr. Derick Schuyler, as follows: The first said, 'That she had nei-ther sinned nor doubted in eighteen Years:' And the latter said, 'That she had not sinned in four Years.' These Things they said before divers Witnesses of Distinction and Credit, who can attest the same.

Mr. Spangenberg, one of the first of the Moravian Missionaries into this Part of the Country, who sowed the Seed of their dreadful Doctrine in New-York, in a Discourse with me, opposed strenuously the Doctrine of Original Sin imputed, and laboured to enervate all that I brought in Confirmation of it.

He likewise call'd the Protestant Churches a Babel (theirs excepted) or compared them thereto. He also afferted, (the first time that he was here) the Salvation of the Damned, or that their Torments should be only for a time; and laboured to maintain this horrible Position, against what I offered in Opposition thereto. Indeed the last time that I saw him, he seemed to be of a different Opinion, as to the last Particular: But I have seen and heard of so much inconsistent Conduct in him, and others of that Sect, that I can hardly avoid

a Jealousy of his Sincerity in that Matter: and seeing the Count materially afferts it in his Sermons, as I have shewn before, there is the more Reason to believe him and others of that Party to be guilty.

Mr. Spangenberg declaimed in my hearing, more than once, against human Learning, and look'd upon it as a considerable Hindrance in the Acquisition of divine Knowledge: He judged his Case to be unhappy because of his Learning, which, he said, he found difficult to

forget.

He run down human Reason, as if it were useless in Religion, and in the room thereof inculcated the Do-Arine of Simplicity, which in their Sense of it, upon mature and frequent Deliberation, I cannot but take to be real Folly and implicit Faith, a believing of Nonsense, Contradictions, and mysterious Gibberish. When they affert gross Contradictions, they tell us that we must believe simply; that is, we must quit our Reason, and turn real Fools; we must believe thro' thick and thin, Absurdities and Nonsense, and so turn Papists. Let Simpletons, who feem willing to fwallow any thing, confider feriously and feasonably the Injunction of God himself by Solomon, Prov. i. 22. How long ye simple ones will ye love Simplicity? and the Scorners delight in their Scorning, and Fools hate Knowledge? Turn you at my Reproof.

It is exceeding artful in the *Moravians* to inculcate this popish Doctrino, at their first coming among a People especially; for when once they have drunk in that, their Work is done; they may turn them into any Shape they will: Reason and Argument are rendred useless; a Shadow of Plausibility is enough. Thus the *Moravians* endeavour to use us, as the *Philistines* did *Samson*, first put out our Eyes, and then lead us where they will, in Triumph.

I might have taken notice of more exceptionable Particulars in the Count's Sermons; but what I have transcribed, are sufficient to convince all, that are not blinded with Prejudice, or given up to saturical Delusion, that their Principles are most detestable!

I

I expect that the *Moravians* will use Fox-like Shifts, to evade the Discovery of their heretical and horrible Principles, by the preceding Letters and Extracts, as they have done respecting what the Count said in *New-Brunswick*. But Truth is great, and will prevail at last over Error and Artisice, and baffle all the sly Tricks of Seducers, who lie in wait to deceive ignorant, simple, and unstable Souls.

If any question my Candor, I advise them to get the Count's Book, and read it themselves deliberately and impartially, and ask for Light from Heaven to help them to distinguish between Truth and Error.

It is contrary to my intended Brevity, to enter upon a particular Confutation of all the Errors contained in the Sermons; that would swell this Volumn to too great a Bulk: and indeed many of the Errors are so absurd, that the bare mentioning of them is Confutation enough, to Persons of Judgment that are freed

from a partial Byass.

What, indeed, are these Sermons but a Bundle of Contradictions, and gross Errors and Heresies, interspersed with some Passages of Truth and Sense? them a preparatory Work by the Law of God is denied, Repentance excluded, Perfection afferted eighteen times, and denied twice; a new Purgatory invented, as well as a new Election from the Time of Christ's Death! In them the great Articles of Faith and Justification are dreadfully corrupted; historical Faith is afferted to be faving; and all Persons are said to be justified from the Time of Christ's Death; the active Obedience of Christ is excluded from bearing any Part in our Justification and Salvation! In them Enthusiasm is afferted, and recommended in diverse Instances; as well as all Use of Means with Sinners, to instruct and alarm them, denied! In them all manner of Wickedness is encouraged, as the most direct Way to Conversion; all Virtue and religious Duty unhing'd and discouraged: according to them, no Means must be used by poor Sinners to obtain Conversion! In them Sin is represented as a meer Trifle, un-

 $\mathsf{Digitized} \, \mathsf{by} \, Google$

worthy of our Fear or Grief! In them the Happines of Heaven is destroyed, by making the Saints to be poor and needy there! In them the faithful Ministers of Christ are condemned for using Means with poor Sinners, to convince them of their Misery, and bring them to Jesus! In them the preaching of Terror to the unregenerate is denied, which is so frequently inculcated in the Word of God, and which was practis'd by Christ himself and his Apostles! In them Christ's Propitiation for Sins in Eternity, is afferted! In them universal Redemption, and universal Salvation, are also afferted; as well as Inspiration after the apostolical Times! In them our Lord is represented, as paying a Ransom after his Death for Persons under Conviction! which is not only contrary to express Scripture (Heb. vii. 27. Heb. ix. 26, 28.) but notoriously derogatory to the Sufficiency of the Atonement of our Lord Jesus in his Life, and at his Death for his Elect. In them the detestable Arminian Doctrines of Free-Will, and the final Apostacy of the Saints are inculcated; and thus the Pride of Sinners is flattered, and the Foundation of the Saints Comforts shut up and fealed! In them the Count urges the universal Necesfity of Assurance on Pain of eternal Death! And in the mean while informs us, that Persons are spiritually alive and dead at the fame Time! He tells us that when the Spirit convinces Persons they are lost, and have no Interest in the Kingdom of God, then they are found, they are Brethren, they are Children of God! Now either two contradictory Propositions can be both true at once, which is impossible in the Nature of Things, or else the Count charges a Falshood upon the Spirit of God. In them the Doctrine of original Sin imputed is denied, and the popish Doctrine of the Sacraments afferted! In them a good Thought at Death is represented as sufficient to obtain Happinefs. In them Sin is afferted to be fomething material; and if so, God must needs be the Author of it, for he hath made all Substances! In them God's holy Law is condemned, as the Cause of Sin: if so, then

God himself is the Cause of Sin, for he is the Author of the Law, and indeed it is but the Image of his moral Excellencies! It is a vile Abuse of that Passage of the Apostle Paul, (I Cor. xv. 56. The Strength of Sin is the Law,) to conclude from hence that the Law is the Cause of Sin: The Meaning of the aforesaid Place is elsewhere explained by the fame Apostle, viz. Rom. vii. 11. For Sin taking Occasion by the Command-ment deceived me, and by it slew me. The obstinate Corruption of our Nature, may unreasonably take Occasion, from the just Restraints of the Commandment to rage the more; but that is not the Fault of the Law, but of our corrupt Nature. Was then that which is good Death to me? fays the Apostle! God forbid! The Apostle rejects the Notion of the Law's being the Cause of his Sin, with great Indignation; he shews that this cannot be, Verses 12, 13, 14. Because the Law is boly, just and good: As if the Apostle should fay, that which is holy cannot be the Caufe of its contrary; for like produces like: But Sin that it might appear Sin, worketh Death in me by that which is Good, that Sin by the Commandment might appear exceeding finful; for we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am carnal. As if the Apostle should say, the Law is good, spiritual, discovers Sin, and its penal Consequences; hence by it is faid to be the Knowledge of Sin, and that it works Wrath: how therefore can it be the Cause of Sin? No; it is the Corruption of Nature, which is the Cause of actual Transgression: But I am carnal, fold under Sin. To turn from the moral Law as a Rule of Life, is not the Way to Freedom from Sin, but to Death in Sin.

The Moravian Notion about the Law, is a Mystery of detestable Iniquity! And indeed this seems to me to be the main Spring of their unreasonable, anti-evangelical, and licentious Religion!

But I have not Time at present, to mention all the other Abominations of the Count's Sermons!

And now having had a Tatte of their Principles,

Some Account of the Principles

42

let us proceed to a brief Reflection, upon their Experience and Practice.

As to their Conversion, and after Experiences; the Conversion of the most of them (if we credit the Count's Affertion, and we may reasonably suppose that he knows pretty well the State of his own Sect) is very flight, it's without any preparatory Law Work, done in a Moment. If they have received the aforesaid Doctrines, have we not Reason to fear that their Conversion is but a strong Flight of Imagination, or a satanical Delusion. And we have the more Reason for the Fear aforesaid, when we consider how easy they are generally after their supposed Conversion, without Fears, without Complaints of Sin, Strangers to the spiritual War, Strangers to the Knowledge of their own Hearts, always in one fort of Frame, or as it were put to fleep and happy, as the Count expresses it. Did not the Seed fown on the stony Ground spring up quickly; but, on the contrary, did not the good Ground bring forth Fruit with Patience? Did not the poor Man in the Gospel bewail his Unbelief? And are we not commanded to fight the Fight of Faith? If we will believe the Scriptures, does not their Conversion and Experiences look like Presumption and Delusion? Their gross Ignorance about the Nature of a true and faving Faith, adds awful Weight to what has been now observed!

I wonder not at their Ease, when I consider what fort of Faith passes for saving among them; and seeing they lay so much stress upon an historical or temporary Faith, and reject the Law of God, by which is the Knowledge of Sin; how can they be otherwise than easy? For without the Law Sin is dead, as to our Apprehension and Feeling; i.e. we have no true Sight and Sense of the Evil and Danger of Sin without the Law.

As to the Spirit of the Moravians; do not a Number of them seem to be proud under a Mask of Humility; while they look upon themselves and their Party, to be more advanced in Grace, than Persons of any other Denomination? How will such a Spirit accord with

with the Example of Paul, who look'd upon himself to be far less than the least of all Saints, and with the Command of God, that every Man should esteem another better than himself?

Are not the Moravians many of them uncharitable and divisive in their Speech and Practice, and that under Pretext of Charity and Catholicism? Witness Mr. Spangenberg's comparing the Protestant Churches to a Babel, and the Count's calling their Conversion by the Law a Delusion? (before mentioned;) Witness their not being willing to join with any Protestant Body of Men, and yet their receiving Persons of diverse Societies to their Fellowship, with little Examination as to their Principles.

Do not those Things, together with their sending of their ignorant Missionaries to gather separate Societies in Places where there is a found Ministry, signify that their Design is not Catholick, whatever their Pre-

tences be notwithstanding?

The Count's bitter and contemptuous Speeches in New-Brunswick, against the Body of the Reformed Churches, gives additional Evidence to what I have now observed.

And is there not much Enthuliasm in the Moravian Method of Management, in these Instances following, viz. in neglecting Family Prayer; in sending out Missionaries, without human Learning; and in their Preaching (ordinarily) without Study, and without Prayer before or after, or both?

Besides, there is much Cunning in their Practice, cloak'd with an Appearance of Simplicity, as is evident from the following Particulars, in their Method

of propagating their Sect, viz.

1. They labour to be acquainted with the Principles of others, and accommodate themselves so far to them in Discourse, as will not consist with Truth. A late Instance of this appeared in one of the Moravian Party, called Mr. Betener, who, in my hearing, expressly contradicted himself in the space of two or three Minutes; a Person of Distinction being present. At

Digitized by Google

first he asserted, that pious People could know others certainly, and offered somewhat in Consirmation of that false and impious Notion, in Answer to what was objected against it: but being asked by another Person after this Manner; You don't think that a good Man can know another infallibly? No, said he!

Besides, I have been inform'd by some Persons of Credit, that Bishop Nitsman's Wise has denied since what she afferted at New-Brunswick: for this, if she will suffer the Matter to be examined, she may be

proved a Liar.

Farther, I am credibly informed, that the Count has in the hearing of several Persons, denied the Articles offered against him in the beginning of this Appendix, which he expressed in New-Brunswick, as they now stand; and some of them absolutely and intirely. I leave it to the impartial Reader to judge, whether those Articles be not proved by the Extracts of his Sermons; and hence to form what Opinion he thinks reasonable, of the Count's Veracity. The Count's denying of them as they stand, seems to be an artful, but ungenerous Evasion. What is it was so, that his Assertions were not put in the same Order in which he delivered them? If his Expressions are not altered, or his Sense wronged, and the Articles be put in a more natural Order, where is the Injury?

I might mention more Instances of other Moravians infincere and inconsistent Conduct; but these at pre-

fent may fuffice.

2. They hide any of their Principles, that they think will difgust. I thought it something strange, in the Count's forbidding any Person to come into the Room with me, the second Time I attempted to see him.

3. They speak slightly of the Use of good Books. This seems to be a crastry Stratagem, to increase their Sect; for they may know, that all Books but their own are against them, considering their Principles complexly. Now their slighting the Use of good Books, has a Tendency to rob God's People, so far as their In-

Influence reaches, of a precious Mean of Instruction and Defence, and so leaves them more exposed to the

Stratagems of Seducers.

4. Do not some Moravians slight human Reason and Learning? which (if used in their proper Place) are good Bulwarks against their inconsistent Doctrine: and in the Room thereof commend a Simplicity of dangerous Tendency, as has been before observed? I know of no commendable Simplicity, but Humility and Sincerity in the Use of proper Means; but to believe Contradictions is a detestable Simplicity, and to expect, in ordinary Cases, Blessings from God, without the Use of proper Means, instead of trusting in him, is to tempt him.

5. Do not the *Moravians* fpeak flightly of Confessions of Faith, and such like regular and harmonious Systems of Christian Principles? And is not this political? For has it not a plain Tendency to prepare Persons to receive their inconsistent Medley of Doctrines, which no human Understanding can harmonize?

6. Do not the Moravians begin with the Affections first? And is this fair Dealing? Do they not endeavour to infinuate themselves into People's Affections first, by Smiles and soft Discourses about the Love of Christ, and by a seeming innocent, simple and loving Behaviour, while in the mean time they carefully hide their Principles, until the Affections are catched and then let them out by Degrees. Should not they shew their Principles sirst, before the Affections are fired, that so People may judge of them with Calmness and Impartiality?

7. Do not they take special Care to apply to young Persons, Females, and ignorant People, who are sulf of Affection? And if any Persons of Distinction are under any good Impressions, those shall be taken special Notice of besure; for poor ignorant young Creatures under their first Love, are easily led aside by fair Shews. And there must be, if they can, some Persons of Note and Figure in every Place to grace their Sect, and gain Proselytes to it. Who do they imitate in

in attacking the weaker part of Men, viz. the Patter; and the weaker Sex first; but the Devil, the Father of Lies and Errors? Did not he deal thus with our First Parents, and

by the weaker Sex feduced Adam?

And don't they refuse generally to reason upon Points in Religion, whereby one might convince another, and leave People to be proselyted by Sight only? It is politick in them indeed to wave Reasoning and shun Discovery, for their Principles will bear neither. Let them but appear in their native Desormity, and they will be abhorred. My Soul is grieved to see the childish Fickleness of the Sons and Daughters of this Generation! who are tossed about with every Wind of Doctrine; who are just smiled out of their Religion, without being able to offer one solid Reason for their Change.

8. They endeavour to unhinge People as to their religious

Principles, with their confused Invectives against Bigotry.

Doubtless, to be as zealous in degree for smaller Points in Religion as for greater, is a criminal Bigotry; for Zeal should surely should be proportioned to the Weight of Things. Likewise to entertain uncharitable Thoughts of those who differ from us only in Circumstantials, or some sew lesser Points of Faith: And, no doubt, to make Circumstantials Terms of Communion, is Bigotry with a witness. Also to endeavour rather principally to propagate a Sect by our Zeal, than to promote the general Interests of Religion. But it is no Bigotry to hold saft Chriss precious Truths in Affection and Practice, and to defend them against all Opposers; for this is the Command of God. And without this a pretended Zeal for Holiness is of no moment. And we find our Lord and his Apostles used Sharpness in dealing with sale Teachers; calling them Wolves, Dogs, Serpents, Vipers!

Indeed to effay to impose our Opinion upon others by Force and Violence, is doubtless a detestable Bigotry; for every one has an equal Right to think for himself, and Reason and Ar-

gument can only convince the Mind.

Certainly we should adhere inviolably to the Principles we have been instructed in, until we find better, which we should be always ready to receive upon proper Conviction; which is not to be attained by the Sight of the Grimaces of Strangers, or by immediate Revelations or Embusiasms, but by Scripture, Reason, and Argument. No doubt we should be always open to Light and rational Conviction; but there is a vast Difference between this and a childish Fickleness. Do not those act like Children and Fools, who part with good Principles for bad?

I think it looks exceeding black in the Moravians to slight speculative Knowledge so as they do, which they call Head-Knowledge. 'Tis true, it is a Sin to rest satisfied with it without feeling its Power and Insluence; but is it not an appointed Mean, to obtain what is saving? why else are the Unconverted enjoined to search the Scriptures? Without Knowledge Solomon observes that the Mind cannot be good; and he says, that they are Fools who hate it. Is not speculative Knowledge the same for Substance with that which is saving, only destitute of its Insluence upon Heart and Practice? The Moravians, by this Method of proceeding, are propagating another damnable Doctrine of the Church of Rome, namely, that Ignorance is the Mother of Devotion.

The Moravians seem to be aware of this, viz. that Reason, Learning, sound Confessions of Faith, and speculative Knowledge, do all of them oppose the Spread of their perverse inconsistent Principles, and therefore they labour to pull them

down.

It is exceeding weak in the Moravians to bring in that Passage of Paul, I Cor. ii. 2. For I determined to know nothing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified; as an Objection against seeking after Knowledge. We cannot reasonably suppose, that the Apostle means any more by that Passage, than that he made Christ the Center and Scope of his Knowledge, i.e. that all he knew should have a Reference to Christ, either more direct or remote. And have not all the Scriptures this Tendency to exalt Christ, to bring Sinners to Christ, and to build them up in him? But to imagine that the Apostle should confine all his Knowledge to the Passion of Christ, in any other Sense, is contrary to Scripture and Reason. If so, why did he inculcate so many other Things in his preaching, and that by immediate Inspiration? If the aforesaid Notion were true, a great Part of the Bible would be useless. But were not these Things written for our Learning? Why are we bid to fearch the Scriptures, if we must not labour to understand them. The following Place of Scripture, Acts xx. 20, 21. And bow I have kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from House to House; testifying to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, Repentance towards God, and Faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ; may be a Help to explain the other. We can have no just Notion of the Passion of Christ, without the other Doctrines. of Religion.

Does it look like the Spirit of Christ, that the Moravians in their Practice are so careless of the secure World? What

Dome Account of the WIORAVIANS. avail their Pretences to Love, while they weaken the Foun-

dation of it, viz. Truth? What fignifies a childish Affection. that is not grounded upon Truth and Reason.

Before I conclude, give me Leave to mention one Instance more, of the strange unaccountable Doctrine of this new Moravian Sect.

Christopher Parleus, one of that Party, declared the following Particulars at the House of Mr. . Samuel Hazard in Phila-

delphia, in Presence of himself and Spouse, viz.

1. That he did not doubt, but that many who were not given to Christ or elected, would in Time be brought to ac-

cept of the Saviour.

2. That there were others who were charitable, and who did not get the Pardon of their Sins in this World, would notwithstanding get their Pardon in the next World: To prove. which, he brought this Text, viz. Make to your felves Friends of the Mammon of Unrighteousness, that when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting Habitations.

. 3. He also said, that God was or might be disappointed in what he intended; and when this was objected against, he explained himself thus, viz. That God would not be finally difappointed of answering the End he intended, tho' he might be disappointed of answering that End by the first or second

Means, &c. which he intended to answer it by.

4. He also said, that the Moravians did not look upon Fa-

mily Prayer to be a Duty.

Here I may add, that Mr. Theodorus Frelinghousa heard the Count affert the fecond Article abovefaid: And moreover adds, that the Count afferted, that many would be faved at the Day of Judgment, by the Intercession of the Saints, and that he himself expected to fave Thousands.

But I am tired with relating their Abominations. I must conclude by observing, that their Principles tend to deceive Mankind, and fix the World in a fatal Security: They are directly contrary to Scripture, Reason, Experience, Antiquity, the Writings of the ablest and best Divines of the Protestant Churches, to the Harmony of their Confessions of Faith, and to the Work of God. O may the GOD of Truth fave his People from all fuch Deceivers, and fuch horrible Delufions! Amen, Amen!

Digitized by GOOQ