BOOK V. wives 1. But seeing there is not any great cause wherefore Ch. lxxiii. 6. the memory of that custom should remain, it skilleth not much although we suffer it to lie dead, even as we see it in a manner already worn out.

> The ring hath been always used as an especial pledge of faith and fidelity. Nothing more fit to serve as a token of our purposed endless continuance in that which we never ought to revoke. This is the cause wherefore the heathens themselves did in such cases use the ring, whereunto Tertullian alluding saith, that in ancient times "No woman was "permitted to wear gold saving only upon one finger, which "her husband had fastened unto himself with that ring which "was usually given for assurance of future marriage2." The cause why the Christians use it, as some of the fathers think, is 3 either to testify mutual love or rather to serve for a pledge of conjunction in heart and mind agreed upon between them. But what rite and custom is there so harmless wherein the wit of man bending itself to derision may not easily find out somewhat to scorn and jest at? He that should have beheld the Jews 4 when they stood with a four-cornered garment

> [ap. Herold. Germ. Antiq. p. 124. sup.]
> tit. vi. 3, 4. "Qui viduam ducere "velit, offerat tutori pretium emp- "unico digito quem sponsus oppig-"tionis ejus, consentientibus ad "norasset pronubo annulo." Ter-"hoc propinquis ejus. Si tutor tull. Apol. cap. 6. "abnuerit, convertat se ad proxi-"mos ejus, et eorum consensu c. 19. ["Illud vero quod imprimis "accipiat illam, paratam habens "pecuniam, ut tutori ejus, si forte
> "aliquid dicere velit, dare possit,
> "hoc est solid. ccc." and tit. xvii.
> "alimuis a sponso sponsæ datur,
> "fit hoc nimirum vel propter mu"tuæ fidei signum, vel propter id
> "magis, ut eodem pignore eorum "Lito Regis liceat uxorem emere, "ubicunque voluerit. Sed non li-"ceat ullam fœminam vendere." p. 126. Basil. 1557. ("Litus, ad-"scriptitius, servus glebæ." Ducange.) First Prayer Book of King Edw. VI. Rubric in Off. of Matrim. fol. cxlviii. "The man shall "give unto the woman a ring, and " other tokens of spousage, as gold "and silver, laying the same upon "the book:" ap. Wheatly, c. x. § v. 4, whom see on this subject. "of his कुछू chamber:" (or "from "Venale illud [matrimonium] fa-"under his bridal canopy.") Ed. "cere aliquando intolerabilius etiam Fagii, 1531. p. 119.]

¹ Vide Leg. Saxon. tit. 6. et 17. "est." Cartwright, ap. Strype, ubi

⁸ Isidor. de Eccles. Offic. l. ii. "annulus a sponso sponsæ datur, "magis, ut eodem pignore eorum

"corda jungantur."] ⁴ Elias Thesb. in dict. Hhupha. "We call the garment which they "spread over the head of the bride-"groom and the bride, with four "staves at the time of espousals, "פְּהְיָ; from the Scripture expres-"sion," (Isaiah iv.) "Upon all the "glory there (is) מַּשְׁתָּ a defence" (or "canopy of light:") and (Psalm xix.) "As a bridegroom cometh out "of his מְּמָה chamber:" (or "from

spread over the heads of espoused couples while their espousals BOOK V. were in making, he that should have beheld their praying over a cup and their delivering the same at the marriage feast with set forms of benediction 1 as the order amongst them was, might being lewdly affected take thereat as just occasion of scornful cavil as at the use of the ring in wedlock among Christians 2.

[7.] But of all things the most hardly taken is the uttering those words, "With my body I thee worship3," in which

¹ In Ritual. de benedict. nuptia- "bride, do signify that we ought to rum. [Comp. Selden, Uxor. Hebr. "hic ritus ex majorum instituto "fieri, adhibito vini, si adsit, alte-"riusve potus qui in usu poculo, " cui etiam sua pro more præit be-"nedictio . . . Solennis poculi vini "pleni benedictio est, Benedictus "sis Dominus Deus noster Rex "mundi qui creasti fructum vitis. "Benedictione peracta, gustatum a " benedicente poculum sponsis tra-"ditur, aut a sponso sponsæ, ubi is "tam benedicit quam prægustat. "Mahanil, fol. 83. et Machazor "German. fol. 336. partis 1^{mae}."]
² [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 723.

"As for matrimony, that also hath "corruptions too many. It was "wont to be counted a sacrament, "and therefore they use yet a sa-"cramental sign to which they at-"tribute the virtue of wedlock, I "mean the wedding ring, which "they foully abuse and daily withal, "in taking it up and laying it down. "In putting it on they abuse the "name of the Trinity." Whitg. Answ. ibid. "I know it is not ma-"terial whether the ring be used or "no, for it is not of the substance "of matrimony; neither yet a sa-"cramental sign, no more than the "sitting at communion is: but "only a ceremony of the which M. "Bucer...saith on this sort;... "'This ceremony is very profitable, "if the people be made to under-"stand what is thereby signified: "as that the ring and other things "first laid upon the book and after-"ward by the minister given to the "according to the popish form to

"offer all that we have to God be-"fore we use them, and to acknow-"ledge that we receive them at his "hand to be used to his glory. "The putting of the ring upon the "fourth finger of the woman's left "hand, to the which, as it is said, "there cometh a sinew or string "from the heart, doth signify that "the heart of the wife ought to be "united to her husband; and the "roundness of the ring doth sig-"nify, that the wife ought to be "joined to her husband with a perpetual band of love, as the ring "itself is without end." T. C. 159. (al. 199.) "If it be M. Bu"cer's judgment which is here al-"ledged for the ring, I see that sometimes Homer sleepeth. For first of all I have shewed that it "is not lawful to institute new "signs or sacraments, and then it "is dangerous to do it, especially "in this which confirmeth the false "and popish opinion of a sacra-"ment. And thirdly, to make such fond allegories of the lay-"ing down of the money, of the "roundness of the ring, and of "the mystery of the fourth finger, "is (let me speak it with his good "leave) very ridiculous and far "unlike himself. And fourthly, "that he will have the minister to "preach upon these toys, surely it "savoureth not of the learning and "sharpness of the judgment of " M. Bucer."

³ [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 723. "They make the new-married man "bridegroom to be delivered to the "make an idol of his wife, saying,

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BOOK V. words when once they are understood there will appear as Ch. lxxiii. 7. little cause as in the rest for any wise man to be offended. First therefore inasmuch as unlawful copulation doth pollute and dishonour 1 both parties, this protestation that we do worship and honour another with our bodies may import a denial of all such lets and impediments to our knowledge as might cause any stain, blemish, or disgrace that way, which kind of construction being probable would easily approve that speech to a peaceable and quiet mind. Secondly in that the Apostle² doth so expressly affirm that parties married have not any longer entire power over themselves, but each hath interest in other's person, it cannot be thought an absurd construction to say that worshipping with the body is the imparting of that interest in the body unto another which none before had save only ourselves. But if this were the natural meaning the words should perhaps be as requisite to be used on the one side as on the other, and therefore a third sense there is which I rather rely upon. Apparent it is that the ancient difference between a lawful wife and a concubine was only 3 in the different purpose of man betaking himself to the one or the other. If his purpose were only fellowship, there grew to the woman by this mean no worship at all but the contrary. In professing that his intent was to add by his person honour and worship unto hers, he took her plainly and clearly to wife. This is it which the Civil Law doth mean when it maketh a wife to differ from a concubine in dignity4; a wife to be taken where 5 conjugal honour and affection doth go before. The

> "'With this ring I thee wed, with "God, of nature, of civility." Comp. "my body I thee worship," &c. S. Luke xiv. 10. "Thou shalt have Whitg. Answer, ibid. "Yet S. Pe-"worship in the presence of them "ter, I ep. c. iii. speaking to the husband saith, 'Ye husbands, "dwell with them as men of know-"ledge, giving honour unto the "woman," &c. T. C. i. 160. al. 199. " M. Doctor must understand "that it is one thing with us to "worship and another thing to "honour." Whitg. Def. ubi sup. "This word worship, when it is "spoken of one man towards an-"other, can have no other signifi-"cation than reverence and duty,

"worship in the presence of them "that sit at meat with thee."]

¹ Rom. i. 24.

² I Cor. vii. 4. ³ L. penult. D. de concub. [Digest. lib. xxv. tit. 7. l. 4. "Concu-"binam ex sola animi destinatione "æstimari oportet."]

* L. item legato. sect. penult. D. de legat. 3. ["Parvi refert, uxori an "concubinæ quis leget . . . sane "enim, nisi dignitate, nihil inter-"est." Dig. lib. xxxii. l. 49. 4.]

⁵ L. donationes. D. de donatio-"which is required by the law of nibus. ["An maritalis honor et afworship that grew unto her being taken with declaration of BOOK V. this intent was that her children became by this mean legiti- Ch. lxxiii. 8. mate and free; herself was made a mother over his family: last of all she received such advancement of state as things annexed unto his person might augment her with, yea a right of participation was thereby given her both in him and even in all things which were his. This doth somewhat the more plainly appear by adding also that other clause, "With all "my worldly goods I thee endow." The former branch having granted the principal, the latter granteth that which is annexed thereunto.

[8.] To end the public solemnity of marriage with receiving the blessed Sacrament is a custom so religious and so holy. that if the church of England be blameable 1 in this respect it is not for suffering it to be so much but rather for not providing that it may be more put in ure. The laws of Romulus concerning marriage 2 are therefore extolled above the rest

"nis comparatis, vitæ conjunctione "considerata, perpendendum esse "respondi: neque enim tabulas fa-"cere matrimonium." Digest. lib.

xxxix. tit. 6. l. 31.]

1 [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 723.

"Because in Popery no holy action "may be done without a mass, they "enjoin the new married persons "to receive the communion, as "they do their Bishops and Priests "when they are made." Answ. ibid. "Truly I marvel what you mean, "so wickedly to revile so godly and so holy a law. Well, I will only "set down M. Bucer's judgment of "this thing also . . . 'Est illud ad-"modum pie ordinatum, ut novi "conjuges una quoque de mensa "Domini communicent, nam non "nisi in Christo Domino debent "Christiani inter se matrimonio "jungi.'" T. C. i. 160. al. 199.
"As for the receiving of the Com-"munion when they be married, "that it is not to be suffered, unless "there be a general receiving, I "have before at large declared; and "as for the reason that is fathered "of M. Bucer, (which is, that those "that be Christians may not be

"fectio pridem præcesserit, perso- "it is very slender and cold: as if "the Sacrament of the Supper were "instituted to declare any such "thing; or they could not declare "their joining together in Christ by "no means but by receiving the "Supper of the Lord."

Compare the following passage in the Life of Kettlewell, compiled from Hickes and Nelson's papers. "He was married at Whitchurch, "Oxon, Oct. 4, 1685, on a Lord's "day, and there was a sacrament "on purpose to communicate the "new-married couple; whereby "they solemnly plighted their troth "to their Lord and Saviour, as well "as to one another; a practice "though so much neglected, yet "piously recommended by the "Church, whom all ought in this "to hear: but sure both by their "advices to others, and by their "own examples, none should be so "fit to retrieve a custom so recom-"mended, as our spiritual guides, "according to this pattern here set "them." Prefixed to Kettlewell's Works, i. 42. ed. 1719.]

2 Οδτος δ νόμος τάς τε γυναίκας ηνάγκασε τὰς γαμετὰς οἶα μηδεμίαν έχούσας έτέραν αποστροφήν πρός ένα " joined in marriage but in Christ,) του του γεγαμηκότος ζην τρόπον, καὶ

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BOOK v. amongst the heathens which were before, in that they established the use of certain special solemnities, whereby the minds of men were drawn to make the greater conscience of wedlock, and to esteem the bond thereof a thing which could not be without impiety dissolved. If there be any thing in Christian religion strong and effectual to like purpose it is the Sacrament of the holy Eucharist, in regard of the force whereof Tertullian breaketh out into these words concerning matrimony therewith sealed; "1 Unde sufficiam "ad enarrandam felicitatem ejus matrimonii quod Ecclesia "conciliat et confirmat oblatio?"—'I know not which way I 'should be able to shew the happiness of that wedlock the 'knot whereof the Church doth fasten and the Sacrament 'of the Church confirm.' Touching marriage therefore let thus much be sufficient.

Churching of women.

LXXIV. The fruit of marriage is birth, and the companion of birth travail, the grief whereof being so extreme, and the danger always so great, dare we open our mouths against the things that are holy and presume to censure it as a fault in the Church of Christ, that women after their deliverance do publicly show their thankful minds unto God? But behold what reason there is against it! Forsooth 2, " if there should "be solemn and express giving of thanks in the Church "for every benefit either equal or greater than this which any "singular person in the Church doth receive, we should not "only have no preaching of the word nor ministering of the "sacraments, but we should not have so much leisure as to do "any corporal or bodily work, but should be like those "Massilian heretics 3 which do nothing else but pray." Surely better a great deal to be like unto those heretics which do nothing else but pray, than those which do nothing else but quarrel. Their heads it might haply trouble somewhat

τοὺς ἄνδρας ὡς ἀναγκαίου τε καὶ ἀνα- "do sic appellati. . . . Nam cum φαιρέτου χρήματος της γυναικός κρατείν. Dionys. Hal. Antiq. lib. ii.

more than as yet they are aware of to find out so many BOOK v. benefits greater than this or equivalent thereunto, for which if Ch. lxxiv. 2 so be our laws did require solemn and express thanksgiving in the church the same were like to prove a thing so greatly cumbersome as is pretended. But if there be such store of mercies even inestimable poured every day upon thousands (as indeed the earth is full of the blessings of the Lord which are day by day renewed without number and above measure) shall it not be lawful to cause solemn thanks to be given unto God for any benefit, than which greater or whereunto equal are received, no law binding men in regard thereof to perform the like duty? Suppose that some bond there be which tieth us at certain times to mention publicly the names of sundry our benefactors 1. Some of them it may be are such that a day would scarcely serve to reckon up together with them the catalogue of so many men besides as we are either more or equally beholden unto. Because no law requireth this impossible labour at our hands, shall we therefore condemn that law whereby the other being possible and also dutiful is enjoined us? So much we owe to the Lord of Heaven that we can never sufficiently praise him nor give him thanks for half those benefits for which this sacrifice were most due. Howbeit God forbid we should cease performing this duty when public order doth draw us unto it, when it may be so easily done, when it hath been so long executed by devout and virtuous people; God forbid that being so many ways provoked in this case unto so good a duty, we should omit it. only because there are other cases of like nature wherein we cannot so conveniently or at leastwise do not perform the same most virtuous office of piety.

[2.] Wherein we trust that as the action itself pleaseth God so the order and manner thereof is not such as may justly offend any. It is but an overflowing of gall which causeth the woman's absence from the church during the time of her lying-in to be traduced 2, and interpreted as though

tioning the names of founders and benefactors, in bidding prayer before sermons.]

Prayer Book contrary to God's word. And p. 537. "Churching of women after child birth smell-² [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 535. "eth of Jewish purification: their

[[]c. 25.]

1 Tertul. lib. ii. ad Uxor. [c. 9.] ² T. C. lib. i. p. 150. [119.]

³ [S. Aug. de Hæres. 57. t. viii. 19. "Postremam ponit Epiphanius "nandi." Epiph. Hær. lxxx. § 3, 4. "Massalianorum hæresin... Græce Theod. Hæret. Fab. iv. 11.] "autem dicuntur εὐχῖται, ab oran-

[&]quot;Dominus dixerit, Oportet semper "orare &c.... quod sanissime sic "accipitur, ut nullo die intermit-"tantur certa tempora orandi; isti "ita nimis hoc faciunt, ut hinc ju-"dicarentur inter hæreticos nomi-

¹ [This passage clearly alludes "Jewish purifyings" are reckoned to the academical custom of men- among the things contained in the

BOOK v. she were so long judged unholy, and were thereby shut out or sequestered from the house of God according to the ancient Levitical Law. Whereas the very canon law itself doth not so hold, but directly professeth the contrary 1; she is not barred from thence in such sort as they interpret it, nor in respect of any unholiness forbidden entrance into the church, although her abstaining from public

> "other rites and customs in their "hath not only escaped it but also "lying-in and coming to church is "brought a child into the world, to "foolish and superstitious as it is "used." T. C. lib. i. 118. al. 150. "The Churching of women: in which title yet kept there seemeth "to be hid a great part of the Jew-"ish purification: for like as in the "old law she that had brought "forth a child was holden unclean, "until such time as she came to "the temple to shew herself ... so "this term of churching can seem "to import nothing else than a "banishment, and as it were a cer-"tain excommunication from the "Church during the space that is "between the time of her delivery " and of her coming unto the church. " For what doth else this churching "imply but a restoring her unto "the Church, which cannot be "without some bar or shutting "forth presupposed?" Whitg. Def. 534. "Now, sir, you see that the proper title is this; The Thanks"giving of Women after childbirth." "The other is the common name "customably used of the common "people, who will not be taught to speak by you or any man, but "keep their accustomed names and "terms: therefore they call the "Lord's Day Sunday, and the next "unto it Monday profane and eth-"nical names, and yet nothing de-"rogating from the days and times "... The absence of the woman " after her delivery is neither banish-"ment nor excommunication, but a " withdrawing of the party from the "church by reason of that infirmity "and danger that God hath laid "upon womankind in punishment " of the first sin, which danger she "knoweth not whether she shall es-

"the increase of God's people, and "after such time as the comeliness "of nature may bear, she cometh "first into the church to give thanks "for the same, and for the deliver-"ance by Christ from that sin, "whereof that infirmity is a perpetual testimony. And this being done not Jewishly but Christianly, not of custom but of duty, not to make the act of lawful matrimony unclean but to give thanks to God for deliverance from so manifold "perils; what Christian heart can "for the name's sake thus disallow

" of it as you do."] ¹ Dict. v. cap. Hæc quæ. [in Corp. Jur. Canon. p. 3.] "In lege præcipiebatur ut mulier si mascu-"lum pareret, 40, si fœminam, 80 diebus a templi cessaret ingressu. "Nunc autem statim post partum "ecclesiam ingredi non prohibe-"tur." [The rubric in the Use of Sarum on the Purification of Women runs thus: "Nota quod mu-"lieres post prolem emissam quan-"docunque ecclesiam intrare volue-"runt gratias acturæ purificari pos-" sunt, et nulla proinde peccati mole gravantur, nec ecclesiarum aditus "est eis denegandus; ne pœna illis verti videatur in culpam. Si tum ex veneratione voluerint ali-"quamdiu abstinere, devotionem "eam non credimus improbandam." The service at that time was read at the church door, and after it the priest took her hand and led her into the church, saying, "Enter "into the temple of God, that "thou mayest receive eternal life, "and endure through all ages. "Amen." Cf. Maskell, Monumenta "cape or no: and therefore after she Ritualia, (1882.) i. 46, 7.]

assemblies, and her abode in separation for the time be BOOK V. Ch. lxxiv. 3, 4. most convenient1.

- [3.] To scoff at the manner of attire 2 than which there could be nothing devised for such a time more grave and decent, to make it a token of some folly committed for which they are loth to shew their faces, argueth that great divines are sometime more merry than wise. As for the women themselves, God accepting the service which they faithfully offer unto him, it is no great disgrace though they suffer pleasant witted men a little to intermingle with zeal scorn.
- [4.] The name of Oblations 3 applied not only here to those small and petit payments which yet are a part of the minis-

¹ Leo Const. xvii. [Corp. Jur. Civ. p. 244.] "Quod profecto non tam propter muliebrem immundi-"tiem quam ob alias causas in in-"tima legis ratione reconditas et "veteri prohibitum esse lege et gra-"tiæ tempus traditionis loco susce-"pisse puto. Existimo siquidem "sacram legem id præscripsisse "quo protervam eorum qui intem-" peranter viverent concupiscentiam "castigaret, quemadmodum et alia "multa per alia præcepta ordinan-"tur et præscribuntur quo indo-"mitus quorundam in mulieres sti-"mulus retundatur. Quin et hæc "providentiæ quæ legem constituit "voluntas est, ut partus a depra-"vatione liberi sint. Quia enim "quicquid natura supervacaneum "est idem corruptivum est et inu-"tile, quod hic sanguis superfluus "sit, quæ illi obnoxiæ essent, in "immunditie ad id temporis vivere "illa [illas] lex jubet, quo ipso e-"tiam nominis sono lascivi [lasciva] "concupiscentia ad temperantiam "redigatur, ne ex inutili et corrupta "materia ipsum animans coagmen-

² [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 537. "She must come . . . covered with "a vail, as ashamed of some folly." Bishop Gibson (Codex, 1, 373. tit. xviii. ch. 12.) has the following note on the words "decently apparelled" in the rubric on this subject. "In "the reign of King James I. an or-

"der was made by the chancellor of Norwich, that every woman who came to be churched should come covered with a white vail: a woman refusing to conform was excommunicated for contempt, and prayeda prohibition; alleging, that such order was not warranted by any custom or canon of the Church of England. The judges desired "the opinion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who convened divers "bishops to consult thereupon; and they certifying that it was the ancient usage of the Church of Eng-"land, for women who came to be churched to come veiled, a prohi-"bition was denied."]

⁸ [T. C. i. 118. al. 150. "To pass "by that, that it will have them come as nigh the communion table "as may be, as they came before "to the high altar;" (the rubric till the last review directed that it should be "nigh unto the place "where the table standeth;") "that "of all other is most Jewish, and "approacheth nearest to the Tewish " purification, that she is command-"ed to offer accustomed offerings, " wherein besides that the very word "carried with it a strong scent and "suspicion of a sacrifice, . . . it can-"not be without danger that the book maketh the custom of the popish church, which was so cor-"rupt, to be the rule and measure " of this offering."]

воок v. ter's right, but also generally given unto all such allowances Ch. lxxv. 1,2. as serve for their needful maintenance, is both ancient and convenient. For as the life of the clergy is spent in the service of God, so it is sustained with his revenue. Nothing therefore more proper than to give the name of Oblations to such payments in token that we offer unto him whatsoever his ministers receive.

Of the rites of Burial.

LXXV. But to leave this, there is a duty which the Church doth owe to the faithful departed, wherein forasmuch as the church of England is said 1 to do those things which are though "not unlawful" yet "inconvenient," because it appointeth a prescript form of service at burials, suffereth mourning apparel to be worn, and permitteth funeral sermons², a word or two concerning this point will be necessary, although it be needless to dwell long upon it.

[2.] The end of funeral duties is first to shew that love towards the party deceased which nature requireth; then to do him that honour which is fit both generally for man and particularly for the quality of his person; last of all to testify the care which the Church hath to comfort the living, and the hope which we all have concerning the resurrection of the dead.

For signification of love towards them that are departed mourning is not denied to be a thing convenient. As in truth the Scripture every where doth approve lamentation made unto this end. The Jews by our Saviour's tears therefore, gathered in this case that his love towards Lazarus was great 3.

² [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 727.

"They appoint a prescript kind of service to bury the dead: and that "which is the duty of every Chris-"tian they tie alone to the minister,
"whereby prayer for the dead is
"maintained, and partly gathered
"out of some of the prayers, where
"we pray that we with this our bro"they and all other departed in the "ther, and all other departed in the "true faith of thy holy name, may "have our perfect consummation

1 T. C. lib. iii. p. 236. [In the table of contents this head is thus referred to: "Of the *inconvenience*, "not of the *unlawfulness*, of the "ceremonies in burial."]

2 [Adm. ap. Whitg. Def. 727.

They appoint a prescript kind of "service to bury the dead; and that "mourning by changing their gar." "mourning by changing their gar-"ments, which if it be not hypo-"critical, yet it is superstitious and "heathenish, because it is used only "of custom; nor of burial sermons, "which are put in the place of tren-"tals, whereout spring many abuses, "and therefore in the best reformed "churches are removed."]

³ John xi. 35, 36.

And that as mourning at such times is fit, so likewise that BOOK v. there may be a kind of attire suitable to a sorrowful affec- Ch. lxxv. 2. tion and convenient for mourners to wear, how plainly doth David's 1 example show, who being in heaviness went up to the mount with his head covered and all the people that were with him in like sort? White garments being fit to use at marriage feasts and such other times of joy, whereunto Salomon alluding when he requireth continual cheerfulness of mind speaketh in this sort2, "Let thy garments be always "white;" what doth hinder the contrary from being now as convenient in grief as this heretofore in gladness hath been? "If there be no sorrow" they say "it is hypocritical to pre-"tend it, and if there be to provoke it" by wearing such attire "is dangerous 3." Nay if there be, to show it is natural, and if there be not, yet the signs are meet to show what should be, especially sith it doth not come oftentimes to pass that men are fain to have their mourning gowns pulled off their backs for fear of killing themselves with sorrow that way nourished 4

¹ 2 Sam. xv. 30.

² Eccles. ix. 8. ³ [T. C. i. 201. al. 161. "For the " mourning apparel, the Admonition "saith not simply it is evil, because "it is done of custom, but proveth "that it is hypocritical oftentimes, "for that it proceedeth not from "any sadness of mind, which it "doth pretend, but worn only of "custom, there being under a "mourning gown oftentimes a merry heart. And considering that "where there is sorrow indeed for "the dead, there it is very hard for "a man to keep a measure, that "he do not lament too much; we "ought not to use these means "whereby we might be further pro-"voked to sorrow, and so a great "way beyond the measure which "the Apostle appointeth in mourn-"ing: (I Thess. iv.) any more than "it was lawful for the Jews in the "Gospel (S. Matt. ix. 23, 24.) to "provoke weeping and sorrow for "their dead by some doleful noise, "or sound of instrument, or than "it was lawful for Mary Lazarus'

" sister to go to her brother's grave, "thereby to set the print of her sor-"row deeper in her mind. Seeing "therefore if there be no sorrow it "is hypocritical to pretend it, and "if there be, it is very dangerous "to provoke it, or to carry the notes " of remembrance of it, it appeareth "that this use of mourning apparel "were much better laid away than "kept." See Whitg. Def. 731. T. C.

iii. 238.]

[T.C. quotes S. Cyprian de Mortal. c. xiv = 20.) for the contrary sentiment. "Nobis quoque ipsis mini-" mis et extremis quoties revelatum est, quam frequenter atque mani-"feste de Dei dignatione præceptum est, ut contestarer assidue et publice prædicarem fratres nostros non esse lugendos accersitione "Dominica de sæculo liberatos. . . . nec accipiendas esse hic atras vestes, quando illi ibi indumenta alba jam sumpserint: occasionem dandam non esse gentilibus ut nos merito ac jure reprehendant, quod quos vivere apud Deum dicimus, "ut extinctos et perditos lugea-