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## To the Reader.

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both in and out of Sessions, you may at one view perceive in a Table, or Particular, prefixed to this Book of such Statutes as are in their power to Execute by virtue of expresse words therein contained; whereby in very many cases, in matters both of liberty and property, that fundamental course of accusation by Indictment found, and Conviction after Issue joyned by Verdict of Twelve Jurors, and of Judgment given in open Court on mature deliberation, concurrency of Opinion, and publick and solemn Determination thereof, are in a great measure abrogated; and how far a delegation of such Authority may tend to the subversion of both liberty and property, by rendring useles the ancient way and method of Accusing, Convicting, Judging and punishing Offenders, 'tis not within my capacity to Discern, but others that can, may prevent it, if there be apprehended any danger from the same. The great Additions to the Justices of Peace, their Jurisdiction first occasioned the Learned Author Mr. *Dalton's* Writing this Book; and because they when private, or but few, were worst to help, he compos'd it for their aid, thereby declaring their Duty out of Sessions, which he hath done with singular pains, care, integrity and judgment.

But the Statutes still increasing their Authority, and the Learned Authors work proving very useful, many Editions of this Book have been, and on pretence of a further benefit hereby, some Additions with little care, and as little judgment have been made to it of late Statutes therein abridged, and of the spurious, and falsly so called Resolutions of the Judges, and some few other matters.

And now all former Editions of this Book, being either spent or not sufficing, there is attempted in this present Impression to make it further useful, not only an inserting under proper Titles the Statutes made since Mr. *Dalton's* time, Abridged with some care and pains, in which Justices of Peace have to deal as well out of Sessions as in their Sessions; as also where-with the Justices had to do in their Sessions, before Mr. *Dalton* first published his Book, and with which he purposely meddled not, it being not his propos'd Task; as also some things touching their Sessions, and their proceedings therein.

'Tis especially provided for herein, that those Statutes that are either discontinued or repealed, may be through this Treatise taken notice of. I shall here insert the Statute, 17 *Car. 2. c. 4.* by which, all Statutes and Aets of Parliament which had their  
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