

One or more of the Messengers of the Kings Chamber, by Warrants under ^{§.16.} His Majesties Sign Manual, or under the hand of one or more of His Majesties Principal Secretaries of State; or the Master and Wardens of the ^{Searching and Seiz-} Company of Stationers, or one of them, may with a Constable take such assistance as they think fit; and at what time they think fit, to search all Houses, Shops, Printing-houses, and Ware-houses, where they know, or probably suspect any Books or Papers to be Printed, Sticked, or Bound; and to view and see the same, and to examine if Licensed, and to demand a sight of the Licence; and if Unlicensed, to seize them with the Offenders, and to bring them before one or more Justices of Peace; who shall commit such Offenders to Prison, till they be tried, acquitted, or convicted, and punished: And if they find any Book or part of Book or Books Unlicensed, containing Matters contrary to the Doctrine or Discipline of the Church, or against the State and Government, they may seize them; and bring them before the Archbishop and Bishop of London, or Secretaries of State, or one of them, who shall take such course for the suppressing of them, as they shall think fit.

All Printers, Founders, and other Persons working in those Trades offend- ^{§.17.} ing against this Act, and shall be thereof convicted by Verdict, Confession, ^{Punish-} or otherwise, shall for the first Offence be disabled to use his Trade for three ^{ment, and} years: And for the second Offence be disabled for ever, and receive such ^{by whom.} punishment by Fine, Imprisonment, or Corporal punishment, not extending to Life or Limb; as the Justices of the Kings Bench, or of Oyer and Terminer, or of Assize, or of the Peace, in their Quarter Sessions, shall be thought fit to be inflicted.

Justices of Peace, in their Quarter Sessions, shall hear and determine such offences by Indictment or Information, and shall certifie yearly all Fines, and shall make Process and Execution, as in other Cases by Law they may.

Every Printer shall reserve three Copies of the best and largest Paper, ^{§.18.} of every Book printed or reprinted; and shall before vending, bring them ^{Copies.} to the Master of the Stationers Company, one whereof for the Kings Library, and one for each Universty.

Nothing in the Act to infringe the Rights of either the Universties, as to ^{Universty.} Licensing or Printing in either the Universties.

No House of a Peer, or other person not free of the recited Trades, shall ^{Search,} be searched, but by the Kings Warrant under his Sign Manual, or under the hand of one or both Secretaries of State.

This Act was to continue for two years, to commence from June the Tenth, ^{Continu-} 1662. But by another Act made 16 Car. 2. c. 8. the said first Act was conti- ^{ance.} nued until the end of the next Session of Parliament. And by the Act of 17 Car. 2. c. 4. the same first Act is continued until the end of the first Session of the next Parliament.

C H A P. LXXVII. V. 42.
Prophecies.

Too true is that of the sharp French Historian Comnes, lib. 6. ^{§.1.} of his Commentaries, Tribuunt Angli Plurimum vaticiniis, and great mischiefes have arisen from the multitudes too great credulity to (and others phantastical publication, and setting on foot) false Prophecies; against which evils were the Statutes of 33 H. 8. 14. & 3 E. 6. 15. made; but they being expired was made the Statute of 5 El. 15. whereby it is provided, That if any shall publish or set forth by Writing, &c. Speech