

are: "Whereas, great Delays have been used, by Sheriffs,
 "Goalers, and other Officers; to whose Custody, any of the
 "King's Subjects, have been committed, for criminal, or sup-
 "posed criminal Matters; in making Returns, of Writs of *Ha-*
 "*beas Corpus*, to them directed; by standing out an *Alias*, &
 "*Pluries Habeas Corpus*; and sometimes more, and by other
 "Shifts, to avoid their yielding Obedience to such Writs; con-
 "trary to their Duty, and the known Laws of the Land;
 "whereby many of the King's Subjects, have been, and hereafter
 "may be, long detained in Prison, in such Cases, where by the
 "Law they are bailable; to their great Charges and Vexation. (1)
 Therefore, Provision is made, to oblige all Officers to perform
 their Duty, and to punish such as shall not do so. There is no
 Part of the Royal *Prerogative*, abridged, or retrenched by these
 Statutes; no new Liberties, or Priviledges are granted to the
 Subject. Here are ample, and large Declarations in Parliament,
 of the Subject's Rights; loud Complaints of the Violation of
 those Rights; The Rights, themselves, confirmed; and the
 knavish Chicanes, and crafty Inventions, that were introduced
 to deprive the Subject of his Rights, are abolished; and more
 easy, plain, and direct Ways, for the Subject, to come at the
 Benefit of Laws, established in their Room.

BY the first Act for settling the Succession of the Crown, a
 Parliamentary Declaration, of the Rights, and Liberties of the
 Subject, was thought necessary; not because the Subject had
 forfeited his Rights, and Liberties; or demanded new: But
 because, those that antiently belonged to him, had been invaded,
 and violated. (*)

FROM what hath been said, it is evident; that the *English*
 Subject, had very ample Rights, and Priviledges, by the Common
 Law; and it is manifest, by the several Statutes already men-

(1) 31 Car. 2. c. 2. (*) 1 W. & M. c. 2.