A COVNTER-BLASTE TO TOBACCO (WRITTEN BY KING JAMES I)

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A covnter-blaste to tobacco (written by King James I) by Edmund Goldsmid

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EDMUND GOLDSMID

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Trieste

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× COVNTER-BLASTE TOBACCO.

CARDER BAR

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COVNTER-BLASTE

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TOBACCO.

(WRITTEN BY KING JAMES I.)

EDITED BY

EDMUND GOLDSMID, F.R.H.S.

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A Covnter-Blaste To Tobacco.

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TO THE READER.

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A Severy humane body (deare Countrey mens) how wholesome socuer, is notwithstanding subject, or at least naturally inclined to some sorts of diseases, or infirmities : so is there no Commonwealth, or Body-politicke, how well governed, or peaceable scener it bee, that lackes the owne popular errors, and naturally enclined corruptions : and therefore is it no wonder, although this our Countrey and Common-wealth, though peaceable, though wealthy, though long flourishing in both, be antongst the rest, subject to the owne naturall We are of all Nations the people infirmities. most lowing and most reverently obedient to our Prince, yet are wee (as time has often borne witnesse) too easie to be seduced to make Kebcilion, vpon very slight grounds. Our fortunate and off provued valour in warres abroad, our heartie and reverent obedience to our Princes at home, hath bred vs a long, and a thrice happy peace : Our Peace hath bred wealth : And Peace and wealth hath brought

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TO THE READER.

foorth a generall sluggisknesse, which makes us wallow in all sorts of idle delights, and soft delicacies, The first seedes of the subuersion of all great Monarchies. Our Cleargie are become negligent and lasie, our Nobilitie and Gentrie prodigall, and solde to their private delights, Our Lawyers conetous, our Common-people prodigall and curious ; and generally all sorts of people more carefull for their private ends, then for their mother the Common-wealth. For remedie whereof, it is the Kings (as the proper Phisician of his Politicke-body) to purge it of all those diseases, by Medicines meete for the same : as by a certaine milde, and yet inst form of gouernment, to maintaine the Publicke quietnesse, and prevent all occasions of Commotion : by the example of his owne Person and Court, to make vs all ashamed of our sluggish delicacie, and to stirve us up to the practise againe of all honest exercises, and Martiall shadowes of VVarre; As likewise by his, and his Courts moderatenesse in Apparell, to make us ashamed of our prodigalitie : By his quicke admonitions and carefull overseeing of the Cleargie to waken them op againe, to be more diligent in their Offices : By the sharpe triall, and severe punishment of the partiall, couctous and bribing Lawyers, to reforme their corruptions : And generally by the example of his owne Person, and by the due execution of good Lawes, to reform and abolish, piece and piece, these old and enill grounded abuses. For this will not bee Opus

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