

**PEACE AND UNION  
RECOMMENDED TO THE  
ASSOCIATED BODIES OF  
REPUBLICANS AND ANTI-  
REPUBLICANS**

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Peace and Union Recommended to the Associated Bodies of Republicans and Anti-republicans  
by William Frend

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**WILLIAM FREND**

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# PEACE AND UNION

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THE ASSOCIATED BODIES

OF

REPUBLICANS

AND

ANTI-REPUBLICANS.

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*BY WILLIAM FREND, M.A.*

FELLOW OF JESUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

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## INTRODUCTION.

FOR writing this book, and publishing it within the univerfity, the author was fummoned to appear in the vice-chancellor's court, on a charge, that in it " religion, as eftablifhed by publick authority within this realm, and alfo all ecclefiaftical ranks and dignities, are impugned." The plan was formed by a cabal, confifting of twenty-seven mafters of arts and doctours, who met at the houfe of the judge, and appointed a committee of five perfons, to carry on in their names the profecution. When the judge and the profecuters are of the fame party, the result of a legal procefs is eafily divined. Eight days were confumed on this difpute de lana caprina, and in bringing the defendant to his fentence. On the feventh, the judge put into the authour's hand an unintelligible paper, which he was ordered to fign; and on his refusal, on the eighth day, to comply with fuch a request, fentence was paffed, namely, " that he is banifhed from the univerfity."

The law, on which this sentence is supposed to be founded, was made in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and there is no instance upon record of a person being punished under it, for merely writing or publishing a book. The passages, which have offended the twenty-seven, are marked by single inverted commas; but, to suit the purposes of the prosecutors, they found it necessary to garble them, and to omit and insert at pleasure.

The full account of the proceedings in the university will be submitted by the authour to the publick; from which it will appear clearly, that there is no such thing as an obsolete law to men, who have, or fancy they have, power in their hands, and that the liberty of the press is, in these times, in very imminent danger.



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## PEACE AND UNION.

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**T**HE royal proclamations, and the <sup>Introduc-</sup> number of associated bodies on <sup>tion.</sup> various pretexts, in different parts of the kingdom, are a sufficient proof that the minds of men are at present greatly agitated; and that the utmost vigour of government, aided by the exertions of every lover of his country, is necessary to preserve us from falling into all the horrors attendant on civil commotions. Having been warned of our danger, it becomes us to consider by what means we may escape the impending evil: and no one should take a decisive part, without weighing fully and impartially the consequences of his conduct. The assassinations, murders, massacres, burning of houses, plun-  
dering

dering of property, open violations of justice, which have marked the progress of the French revolution, must stagger the boldest republican in his wishes to overthrow any constitution: and, on the other hand, he must be a weak or a wicked man, who, lost in admiration of the beauties of a voluptuous and effeminate court, forgets the miseries of the poor subjects, whose bodies were bowed down to the grindstone for its support, and brands, with every mark of aristocratic infolence, the efforts of those patriots, who put an end to the despotism of the antient government. It is an awful example, which providence holds out to an astonished world; and happy will that nation be, which derives from it lessons of wisdom. Surely there cannot be a dissentient voice on this opinion; and no blame can that writer incur, who calls on the contending parties in our own country, to make a proper use of the divine judgements, and, instead of exasperating each other by useless invectives, to unite cordially in their endeavours to promote the common good, and to remove those grievances,  
if

if any such there be, which occasion the present discontent.

If the dispute between the contending parties were solely this, whether the present government should be overthrown or not, the matter might be brought to a speedy issue. It would be urged on the one side, that the government has, for these hundred years last past, been acknowledged as the best in Europe, and unless a much better is pointed out to us, it will be unwise in the extreme to destroy a system, under which we have experienced so much publick and private happiness. The advocates for a republick may answer, that the government, among many bad ones, was really the best, but the expences of it were enormous; a thousand millions of money have been drawn from the subjects, which, had they been expended on the country, would have converted it into a paradise, and we have now before us the instances of America and France, which, on the ruins of their antient forms, have erected much nobler edifices. Let us see, whether a reasonable and moderate man may not be able to bring

Governments of America and France no examples for England.