

The Publick having been amusi'd with several short and imperfect Accounts of the late extraordinary Proceedings at New-London, by Mr. Davenport and Followers; and as we have just received a more particular Narrative of these Disorders, from a Gentleman of known Capacity and Integrity; we now present it to our Readers.



An Account of the extraordinary Conduct of the New-Lights at New-London, has doubtless, before this Time reach'd you at Boston; but, having been variously represented, the following Account (which may be depended upon) perhaps may not be unacceptable.

The Separatists at New-London, sent a Boat over to Long Island to invite the grand Enthusiast, D----- over to Organize their Church (as they term'd it); He arrived on or about the second Day of March: He was no sooner come to Town, than he began to rectify some Disorders he supposed were prevailing among the Children of God: He published the Messages which he said he received from the Spirit in Dreams and otherwise, importing the great Necessity of Morification and Contempt of the World; and made them believe that they must put away from them every thing that they delighted in; to avoid the heinous Sin of Idolatry, that Wigs, Cloaks and Breeches, Hoods, Gowns, Rings, Jewels, and Necklaces must be all brought together into one Heap into his Chamber; that they might by his solemn Decree be committed to the Flames; together with certain Books of Devotion, &c. which he determined to be unsafe to be in the Hands of the People. Accordingly, they seem'd to be in a Strife who should be first in this meritorious Action, and then was presently made a Pile of Men's and Women's Apparel and Ornaments, to which the grand Director added a pair of Plush Breeches which he wore to Town, and which now he would greatly want, were he not confined in Bed by a Distemper for which I want a Name. A New-Light Physician who attends him, (and no other may come nigh him), says it is the Cancer, and sure it eats like one, and is supposed by others to be what may be term'd the Grand Scurvy.

The Books which were committed to the Flames, were as follows, Beveridge's Thoughts on Religion, part of Flavel's Works, one piece of Mr. Henry's, Russell's seven Sermons, Dyer's Golden Chain, the Whole Duty of Man; one piece of Dr. Increase Mather's, one of Dr. Colman's, one of Dr. Sewall's, and Dr. Chauncy's Sermon against Enthusiasm, Mr. Adams's Sermons, all that could be had; Flynt's 20 Sermons, Barnard's, Hooper's, Hart's, Samuel Russell's, Beckwith's, Todd's, Steaberry's and Bliss's Sermons, with a Book of Williams and Wadsworth; these being called over, were with much Noise and Outcry burnt on the Town Wharf in the Afternoon of the Sabbath Day, March 6th. just as People were coming from Meeting, who ran to see if Murder or some other Mischief was not about to be done, and so were Witnesses of this their horrid Delusion, and heard them sing Hallelujahs and Gloria Patri over the Pile, and heard them with a loud Voice declare, That the Smoak of the Torrents of such of the Authors of the abovesaid Books as died in the same Belief, as when they set them out, was now ascending in Hell in like Manner as they saw the Smoak of them Books rise. The next Day sundry other Books (to me unknown) were burnt, and the Cloaths, &c. which were ready in a Pile for that Purpose, would certainly have been consumed, but that one of the Fraternity who lov'd the World better than the rest, and was more apprehensive of the ill Aspect this Transaction would have on their Scheme and Party, came running and diverted them from it for that Time; and thus having Time to consider a little, one of the Female Bigots drew back her Cloak, saying, The Calf you have made is too big, and flung D-----'s Plush Breeches into his Face; and being further told that this their Conduct would destroy their Scheme, and ruin their Interest among the People, they judg'd some Retraction necessary, and so they declared publicly against what had been done, as the Fruit of a Delusion; and even the Ringleader himself declared the same, and then they fell to confessing their Sins publicly; one told of one Thing, and another of another, many of them declaring they believed they were Judas's; and one of the Armour-bearers said, that he had depended upon it, he had been in Christ for the Space of three Years, but now he believ'd he was a Judas, and was come over to the Main to be a Spectacle, should be hang'd up and his Bowels would gush out: And so forward were they in this Business, that the poor blind Boy ----- could hardly get Room to declare so soon as he would, that he was a Sinner, and had no Grace in him. The New-Light Teacher at New-London declares, that they suppose the D----- sent D----- here, and put the People upon this extraordinary Action. The New-Light Ministers round about are at a loss how to conduct themselves, and how to make a Plaster for this Sore. However, at Groton the Rev. Mr. O----- ventured to condemn the Thing, in a Sermon at a Fast appointed on account of this extraordinary Thing, and charg'd his Hearers to avoid them as those who were under a Delusion, and had done more Diservice to Religion, than all the Opposers, at which many of his Hearers are griev'd; and thus it is probable he may have a Number that will separate from him, upon Reasons as justifying as those that with him have warranted a Withdrawal from some of the neighbouring Ministers. We are ready to hope, that God, who brings Good out of Evil, Light out of Darkness, and Order out of Confusion, by Means of these extraordinary Things, will open the Eyes of People, and put a Stop to the Growth of Error and Enthusiasm in this Land.

N. B. The New-Lights, by a solemn Decree, order'd Mr. Parsons's wonderful Piece (preach'd and printed at Boston) into the Flames at New-London.

By other Letters from Persons of Credit at New-London we are assured, that since Mr. D-----'s arrival there, he has resign'd his Pastoral Charge of the Church in Southold, and sent back their original written Contract with him.