

yet Truth would sometimes give Place to its constant and diametrick Enemy, were not such derogating Reports contradicted. For this Reason, though I seldom suffer myself to be affected with the infamous Schemes of Folly and Villainy, I hereby give it under my Hand, in the solemnest Manner that the Nature of the Thing can possibly require, " That both the Wills of Mr. Secretary and Mr. George Carter are at all Times to be seen, in which it is evident that neither of them have appropriated one Pennyworth of any Part of their Estates to any other Use than that of the particular Legatee, to whom such Thing is specifically given; and that I enjoy no Part of either of ~~their~~ Estates, but from the Will of my honoured Father, as the Person in Remainder, to whom such Estate is limited."

It is generally seen that such scandalous derogating Reports take Place only with the Weak and Ignorant, as they are intended to affect some malicious undermining Purpose; but how Gentlemen of a serious and sensible Turn of Mind have given Credit to such an extravagant Inconsistency as this is Something not to be accounted for, unless we are to conclude that they fancy themselves obliged to sacrifice their Sense and Reason to the bare and slender Appearances of Honesty ~~in~~ who, on the least Inspection, will be found to be the most errant Hypocrite. Can any Thing be more void of common Sense than this Report? Could Mr. Secretary Carter be supposed to bequeath so great a Charity to a Parish in which he had not one Penny of Interest, and where he could have had but a very passant Acquaintance; and yet neglect those Parishes with which he was strongly connected, both by Acquaintance and Estate? Or could Mr. George Carter, born in Lancaster, bred up at the College, and dying in England, think of Lunenburg Parish (in which he never had one Shilling at Stake) in so extensive a Manner as this charitable Perpetuity is, and never leave the least Benefaction to any other Part of the Country? Certainly the Inconsistency of such a Transaction must have been enough to have confounded the Report, with any who had given the least Thought to it; although they might not have remembered that this Charity-School was subsisting some small Time even before Mr. George Carter's, and long before Mr. Secretary Carter's, Death. Certainly, certainly the World is extremely unhappy, when the Professors of Christianity, at the same Time that they hold (as it is declared) that lying Lips are an Abomination to the LORD, yet the very Members of CHRIST'S Church, serious and devout as they are, seem, I say, to pay the greatest Credit to such, even in the most surprising Instances; but perhaps the being born to Dignity and Figure is a License for uttering inconsistent Untruths, too sacred to be discredited.

Indeed