Mr Daniel de Foe is a Man of good Parts, and very clear sense. His Conversation is ingenious and brisk enough. The World is well satisfy’d that he’s enterprizing and bold; but alas! Had his prudence only weigh’d a few Grains more, he’d certainly have wrît his *Shortest Way* a little more at length.

There have been some Men in all Ages, who have taken that of Juvenal for their Motto:

*Aude aliquid Brevibus Gyaris & Carcere dignum*

*Si vis esse aliquis ----*

Had he writ no more than his *True-born English Man*, and spar’d some particular Characters that are too vicious for the very Originals, he had certainly deserv’d Applause; but ’tis hard to leave off when not only the Itch and Inclination, but the Necessity of writing, lye so heavy upon a Man.

Shou’d I defend his Good Nature, and his Honesty, and the World wou’d not believe me, ’twou’d be Labour in vain. Mr Foe writ for me the *Character of Dr Annesley*, and a Pindarick in Honour of the Athenian Society, which was prefix’d to the History of it, and he might have ask’d me the Question before he had inserted either of ’em in the Collection of his Works, in Regard, he writes so bitterly against the same Injustice in others.