Wednesday, April 28.

A few Days ago dy’d Mr Defoe, Sen., a Person well known for his numerous and various Writings. He had a great natural Genius; and understood very well the Trade and Interest of this Kingdom. His Knowledge of Men, especially those in High Life (with whom he was formerly very conversant) has weaken’d his Attachment to any Party; but in the main, he was in the Interest of Civil and Religious Liberty, in behalf of which he appear’d on several remarkable Occasions. [Daily Journal]

On Monday in the evening died, at his lodgings in Rope-Makers Alley in Moorfields, the famous Mr Daniel De Foe, in a very advanced age. [Courant]

It is no small comfort to me, that my Brother died in a [good] old age, in a place made famous by the decease of several of our Members; having kept himself out of the dangerous alleys of those high-flying Rope-makers, who would fain have sent him long ago, to his long home, by the shortest way with the Dissenters.

From the PEGASUS in Grub-Street

The Members were so afflicted at the news of the death of that ancient ornament of our Society, Mr Daniel De Foe, that they were incapable of attending to the Papers which were read to them. Upon which our President adjourned the consideration of them till the next meeting, after the following Epigram had been read; which by some was imagined to be the last Work of the Great Author deceas’d, and an instance of his perseverance in his principles to the last being very agreeable to the sentiments which he himself had frequently published both in prose and rhime.

Epigram

When S—at first to the Mitre was rais’d;
How the Prince and the Prelate by Clergy were prais’d !
We have now got a Bishop of Primitive sort,
Who will ne’er undertake any Job of a Court.
Had all Prelates such learning, such sense, and such fame,
Such a fortune, and virtue, the y would still be the same.
So they are, like all Priests, cries censorious Free-thinker,
Whether sons of a Dean, or the sons of a Tinker :
However they affect in learned Disputation;
They are ASGYLITES all, and depend on Translation.