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Call Number	BrSides By6 1688
Published/Created Date	1688
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The Bloody and Treacherous
Design of the French King
 To Destroy the
Protestants of England

THE restless and implacable Malice of the *Papists* to suppress the *Protestant Religion*, is so evident and plain, and so obvious to the Eyes of all sorts of People, that they now no more make use of the *Foxes Skin*, but appear Apparel'd in the *Lyons*; disdain'ing any more, or rather scorning, a Veil or Shelter for their Villanies. But since at all times Providence has frustrated their Designs, we still hope that the same Power will Protect us against all their *Hellish Machinations* and *Contrivances*. What a Mighty Fleet (by the Donation and Instigation of His Unholiness the Pope) was prepar'd by the *Spaniards*, in *Eighty Eight*, to Invade *England*? No less than an *Hundred Thirty Four* great Gallions and Ships of extraordinary bigness, full of all manner of Instruments of Cruelty to Torment and Destroy us; yet they were all scatter'd by the Winds and broken in pieces, or else taken by a few of the *Queen's Ships*. Then the *Gun-Powder-Treason*, that makes all Honest Mens Hearts Ake to think of it, where the *Devil* and the *Pope* were so shamefully Foyl'd on the *Fifth Day of November*, that, in the *Roman Calenders*, it is mark'd with a *Dies ne fastus*, Black to them, but Glorious to us and our Posterity for ever. Then their last *Plot* was come to the Birth, but wanted Strength to bring forth: It is gone back into the Womb of *Hell*, where it was hatch'd; and, we hope, will be condemn'd to everlasting Darkness, notwithstanding their fair hopes that they pretend to in their Young *Perkin Warbeck*: So that His Holiness's Title to these Kingdoms is as Transitory as His *Hopes*; and His *Territories* and *Wealth* only *Fairy Land* and *Treasure*; and all their *Convents*, *Monasteries*, *Nunneries*, and *Irreligious Dens*, as firmly settl'd in *England* as *Castles in the Air*. It has always been thought that *England* is a March for *France*, but, with the Addition of *Holland*, not only able to Resist *France* and its Confederates, but even all the *Papish Princes* in Christendom. Their main Design therefore, has been all along to Suppress the *Protestant Religion* in *England*; and not only to cut off Root and Branch, but to extirpate *Heresie* (as they call it) out of this Kingdom: And to that end have Employ'd all their *Councils*, *Policies*, and *Industries*; Their *Conspiracies*, *Poysonings*, and *Massacres*; Their *Strength* and *Treasures*, or any thing that might be thereunto conducing, but all in vain: But now, as the last *Stroke*, which would have been a *Stroke* indeed; The *Pope*, and some of His Confederates, have so far prevail'd with His most Unchristian King, the *French Monarch*, (by telling Him, *That in this One Action he will gain such an Immortal Honor, that shall bury all His other Trophies in Oblivion*,) that He has Sworn never to Sheath His Sword till He has Reveng'd the *Churches* Quarrel: But considering that open force will little avail upon a Nation who have several times made Slaughter of his Subjects, Burnt and Harra's'd his Country, and depriv'd his Predecessors of their Imperial Crowns, He thinks His *Dragoons*, or *Piedmont Inventions* will be more safer, and fitter for His purpose.

Published with Allowance.

LONDON, Printed for W. D. 1688.