II.

PETITION OF WILLIAM PRYNNE, FEBRUARY, 1634.

[State Papers, Domestic, Charles I. cclx. 120.]

To the Right Honorable the Lords of his Majesty's Most Honorable
Privie Councill. The humble petition of William Prynne, a
prisoner in the Fleet,
Most humbly sheweth,

That your pore petitioner hath latelie incurred your Lordships' just and heaveie censure for divers passages inconsideratelie fallen from his pen in a booke called *Histrio-Mastix*, which have given great and just offence to the King's most excellent Majesty, his royall Consort the Queen, and the whole state, the execution of which sentence will prove his utter overthrow and ruine, unles your Lordships wilbe graciouslie pleased to become his honorable intercessors to his Majesty for the mitigation and remission thereof.

He therefore in all humble submission prostrates himselfe at your Lordships' feet, professing his unfained sorrow for the said offensive passages, and acknowledging the justice of your Lordships' proceedings and severe sentence against him for the same; most humblic beseeching your Lordships out of your abundant compassions to commiserate the distressed forlorne condicion of your sorrowful suppliant; and to become his favorable mediators to his Majesty for the mitigation and pardon of his fine and corporall punishment, and he shall ever pray for your Lordships.

WILLIAM PRYNNE.