

/ ("Upon the 24th of February anno Domini 1609 Cardinal Bellarmine gave this resolution by order of his Holiness to a certain Scottish gentleman that come to Rome in the name of a certain nobleman of that kingdom to demand some dispensation or toleration, if
5 it were possible, for going to protestant churches. In which resolution the first point was this, that the matter was not dispensable being prohibited Iure divino, and consequently neither dispensation nor toleration might be granted. The second point was, that any priest might absolve them ~~that~~ that did so fall, if they pro-
10 mised to ~~ab~~stain for the time to come, as in other sins. The third point, that men might go to such churches for mere temporal offices of affairs, as carrying the sword before the king ^{or} ~~the~~ the like, so they went no further, not stayed longer, than the necessity of their said offices required.")

15 From contemporary copy in Ms. 303 in the Arch. Coll. Angl. cf. Douai Diaries. App. XXVIII et XXIX.