

# The London Gazette.

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By the King,

## A PROCLAMATION;

For Enforcing the Due Execution of the Acts of Parliament for Erecting the Post Office, and for Settling the Profits thereof upon Us, Our Heirs and Successors.

JAMES R.

**W**hereas the Office of Post-Master General hath been Erected by Act of Parliament in the Twelfth year of His late Majesty's Reign, and the well Ordering thereof is thereby Declared to be a Matter of General Government, and of great Advantage, as well for Preservation of Trade and Commerce as otherwise: And whereas also the greatest part of the Revenue and Profits thereby arising, was by One other Act of Parliament in the Fifteenth year of His said late Majesty's Reign Granted, and Assigned by His late Majesty unto Us, by the Name of His most Entirely Beloved Brother JAMES Duke of York, For and towards Our Maintenance and Support. And whereas by One other Act of Parliament made in the First Year of Our Reign, the Profits and Revenue of the said Office was Settled upon Us, Our Heirs and Successors; Which Laws and Statutes notwithstanding, several Persons for their private Lucre have lately practised, and do still continue in a secret and most Unlawful manner to make a General Collection of Letters, and to give them Conveyance and Delivery for Hire, without any Authority from the Post-Master General, whereby not only the Revenue arising by the said Office is Diminished, but likewise several Dangerous Correspondences are Preserved and Maintained, and the Seditious Designs of many Evil disposed Persons are very much Promoted: His Majesty therefore for the Prevention hereof in time to come, and to the end that such Persons who shall presume hereafter to Offend in like manner, may remain without all Excuse, hath thought fit by this His Royal Proclamation to Require and Enjoy all His Loving Subjects, And doth hereby strictly Charge and Command all and every Person and Persons (other then the Post-Master General for the time being, his Deputies or Assigns) that they presume not either directly or indirectly to set up any Office, or to contrive or practise any way or means for Collecting and Receiving of Letters and Packets, or to Carry, Recarry, or Deliver the same with speed and for Hire. And to this end His Majesty doth further Require and Command them and every of them, That they presume not to set up any Foot-Post, Horse-Post, Post or Stage-Coach, or Packet-Boat for Carrying or Recarrying of Letters and Packets, or to Employ or make use of any which shall be set up for that purpose other then such as shall be Licensed and Authorized by the Post-Master General for the time being, his Deputies or Assigns. And because several Carriers, Drivers of Stage-Coaches and Waggons, Hagers, Masters of Ships, Purfers, or other Mariners, do very often, under colour and pretence of their respective Employments, intermeddle with, and intrude upon the Office of the Post-Master General; His Majesty doth hereby more particularly and expressly Charge and Command all Carriers, That they presume not to carry any Letters, other then such as shall concern the Goods wherewith they are Charged, beyond the first Post-Stage to which they shall arrive, and that they presume not to outgo their Packs or Waggons, or deliver any Letters which they Carry, soeuer with more speed than their respective Packs or Waggons shall arrive. And His Majesty doth in like manner Charge and Command all Drivers of Stage-Coaches, Hagers, and such like Persons, That they presume not in any kind, or upon any pretence whatsoever, to intermeddle with the Conveyance and Delivery of any Letters as aforesaid, but that they do from time to time receive all such Letters which shall be so tendered to them. And His Majesty doth also Command all Masters of Ships, Boursers and Mariners, That they presume not to Carry any Ship-Letters, other than the Letters of Merchants, Owners, and Masters beyond the first Post-Stage to which they shall arrive in England, and that that they do there deliver the same unto the Deputy or Deputies only of the Post-Master General for the time being. And if any Carriers, Drivers of Stage-Coaches, Hagers, Masters of Ships, Purfers, or other Mariners shall be found carrying of Letters unlawfully, or in any other manner, they shall incur His Majesty's high Displeasure, and suffer the utmost Penalty which can be inflicted upon such as shall be found to have broken His Majesty's Laws, and to

be Wilful Contemners of His Royal Command; And moreover, all Letters whatsoever sent or conveyed by such Clandestine and Indirect ways, and by persons not Lawfully Authorized, shall be look'd upon as Letters of dangerous Consequence, and shall accordingly be Seized and brought to One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or to some One or more of the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, to the end the same may be Opened and Inspected, and the persons Conveying or Sending them, may be prosecuted against according to Law. And for the better Execution of His Majesty's Command, and as a means to Secure the Revenue arising by the said Office, His Majesty will cause such Searchers, Waiters, and other Officers to be Appointed in all convenient Places, as may be fit and proper for the Discovery of such Practices, and carrying such Letters, to be Seized, and such Offenders Names to be certified. And in the mean time His Majesty doth strictly Charge and Command all Mayors, Sheriffs, Justices of Peace, Constables, Bayliffs, Searchers of his Majesty's Ports, and all other His Officers and Ministers whatsoever within their several Jurisdictions and Offices from time to time to make diligent Search for all Mails, Buggets and Bags, in any Ship, Vessel, Waggon, Coach, or other Unlawful or Unlicensed Carriage, and all such Letters which they find to be Conveyed or Carried contrary to Law, to Seize and send up to One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or to some One or more of the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council, together with the Names of the Persons Offending, to the end such further Proceeding may be had, as shall be found agreeable to the Laws and Statutes of the Realm. And that no man hereafter may complain for want of a sealed Post in or near particular By-Towns or Places lying on the Post-Road, which Complaint hath hitherto been made the Excuse or Pretence for sending or carrying of Letters by other Indirect and Unlawful Conveyances. His Majesty doth hereby also Require and Command the Post-Master General for the time being, to take effectual Care for the Conveyance of all By-Letters, by Establishing Correspondences at the least Charge, and greatest Ease that may be to the Countrey, in all considerable Market-Towns with the next adjacent Post Stages; And that he cause a Map or Card thereof to be forthwith Printed, to the end that all His Majesty's Subjects may know where, and to what Place to address their respective Letters. And His Majesty doth further Charge, and command all and every Person or Persons, other then the Post-Master General for the time being, his Deputies, or Assigns, That they presume not to prepare or provide any Horses or Furnitures to let to Hire, unto, or in all or any the Through-Posts, and Persons Riding Post, by Commission or without, to and from all and every the Parts and Places of England, Scotland and Ireland, where any Post Roads are or shall be Settled and Established, unless the Post-Master General, his Deputies or Assigns shall first fail to Provide and Furnish the Person or Persons so Riding Post, with sufficient Horses, and Furniture within the space of half an hour after Demand thereof made, as they will answer the contrary at their Perils.

Given at Our Court at *Windfor* the Seventh day of 16: September 1685. In the First Year of Our Reign.

*Vienna September 6.* The last Letters from the Imperial Camp near *Pest* told us, that General *Cappra* was marched with 7 or 8000 men towards *Upper Hungary*; And that the Duke of *Lorraine* hath sent a strong Party towards *Agria* to see in what posture the Enemy are on that side, which makes us think his Highness intends to attack that place. The Elector of *Bavaria* is expected here in few days, and after a short stay at this Court, will return with the Archduchess his Wife to *Munick*. The Count de *Scherfemberg* is going to his Government of *Newbeasel*; he will take with him a great many Workmen, and a considerable sum of Money, for the repairing the Fortifications of that place. The last account we had from the Camp before *Espres*, was, that the Besiegers were advanced to the Ditch, and that they were making Galleries to pass it, but that they met with great opposition from the Besieged, who seem resolved to defend the place to the last extremity. An Officer

Q. Queen, who is come from *Pirovitzza*, gives the following account of General *Leslie's* late Expedition. That having left his heavy Cannon and Baggage at *Pirovitzza*, he marched the 9th of the last month from *Tourbina* with a Body of 6000 men; The 10th he came to *Moufflaroima*, and in the Evening detached an Officer with 500 Croats and some Foot to Invest *Michalowitz*, in which were 60 men, who immediately surrendered at discretion, and General *Leslie* put a Garrison of 200 men into the place; In the meantime the Turks made several Signals from the Castles they have near the *Drave*, and sent out Parties to give the Alarm to those of *Esseck*. The 12th Count *Leslie* continued his march towards *Carassina*; The Pass of *Esseck* advancing with 600 Horse charged his Vanguard, but was repulsed and forced to retire with considerable loss; and on our side a Captain and 26 Soldiers were killed; The 13th Count *Leslie* marched towards *Esseck*, and being come into the great Plain so far from that place, perceived a Body of about 1000 Turkish Horse, their Foot, whose number the Christians could not exactly observe, being posted nearer to the Town; Count *Leslie* having drawn his Troops in Battalia, commanded the Croats of the two Wings to advance and charge the Enemy which they did with that bravery, that the Turks fell presently into disorder and soon after fled; The Foot at the same time making all the hafts they could to get into the Town and the Castle; whereupon Count *Leslie* gave orders to his Troops to attack the Town, which they performed with great courage, Scaling the Walls, which were of no great defence, and entering the place with their Swords in their hands; The Turks endeavored to save themselves with their Wives and Children, some by Water, others by getting into the Castle, and of the former many were taken in little Boats. The Town of *Esseck* is large, there being in it above 500 Shops of several Trades, and two great Markets, which were then filled with great quantities of Rice, Corn, and other Provisions; Count *Leslie* gave the Pillage of the Town to the Soldiers, and having posted Guards to secure the Avenues of the Castle, went to view the Bridge, which is 8000 Paces in length on the other side of the *Drave*, and 1100 Paces on this, and 12 Paces broad; He found that the Turks had broke down-part of the said Bridge on the other side of the River to hinder the Christians from pursuing them, and that it would be very difficult to burn it, and therefore contented himself with burning that part on this side the *Drave*; which is quite destroyed. Twenty Soldiers swam the River with a resolution to set Fire to several Mills on the other side, but a great many Turks appearing they were forced to return without executing it. The Croats desired Count *Leslie* would give them leave to attack the Castle, which he did, but they found it much stronger than they expected, and were forced to give over their design after having lost above 50 Men. The 15th General *Leslie* marched back towards *Michalowitz*.

*Brussels, September 18.* Our Governor General has named *Don Antonio Picemell*, to go in quality of Envoy Extraordinary from his Catholick Majesty, to compliment the Elector Palatin upon his accession to the Electorate. His Excellency has, it is said, received orders from Spain, to restore the English and Irish Regiments, and Captain *Stamford's* Troop of Horse, which were reformed by the Marquis of *Grana*. This morning arrived here Sir *Richard Austrope*, Envoy from his Majesty of Great Britain to this Court; Having passed through *Antwerp* in his way hither he was complimented by the Governour, and the Magistrates of that City who visited him in a Body and sent him a large present of Rhenish wine, and yesterday entertained him, being accompanied with all the English in Town, at dinner in the *Stadthouse*. The last Letters from the Imperial Army gave an ac-

count, That the Turks had demolished and afterwards quitted *Novigrad* and *Paccia*; That the Serasquier, having sent a great Detachment towards *Agria*, otherwise called *Erla*, had with the rest of the Army passed the *Danube* at *Buda*. That the Duke of *Lorraine* had answered the Aga sent to him by the Serasquier, That he had no orders from the Emperor to treat of Peace; That a victorious Army was not to be amused with such proposals; and that he would fight the Christians did now avoid it by so hafty a retreat; To which the Aga replied, that the Country was so ruined on this side the *Danube*, that there was no Forage for his Troops, and therefore he had been obliged to pass that River.

*Hague, September 18.* The Heer *Camprich* the Imperial Minister has presented another Memorial to the States General concerning the Arrears of Subsidies due to his Imperial Majesty from this State. The Heer *Fuchs* Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector of *Brandenburg* is expected here the next week in his return from *Berlin*, with his Electoral Highnesses Ratification of the Treaty lately concluded between him and this State. The Review on the *Pulme* was on Wednesday last, and the next day the Troops Exercised, which are since returned to their several Quarters.

*Paris, Sept 15.* The Court is now at *Chambar*. The Prince de *Turenne*, who returned with the Princes de *Gonij* and de la *Roche-Sur-Ton* from *Hungary*, having received a Command from the King to leave the Kingdom, is retired to *Berguen-op-Zoom* to be there with his Uncle the Count d'*Auvergne*. The Sieur *Girardin* the King's Ambassador to the Grand Signior, is gone to *Tbou on*, where he will embark for *Constantinople*.

#### Advertisements.

Whereas a great Robbery was committed the 11th Instant in Lime-street, where was stolen from Mr. *Gatford* Minister of Lime-street, 10 large Silver Spoons, six of them have three Goats Passant Argent, two Lag Siter, two Plain, 8 Forks the same Arms, one Fork Log, 6 wrought little Silver Spoons, four Treacher Table Salts, two with Arms; One large Sait, 3 Silver Porringers, 3 Salvors, one of them deep, two flat; Two large Silver Plates, one pair of Silver fashionable Candlesticks; one Closet Candlestick, with Snuffers and Extinguisher, one Tea Pot, one Silver Tankard wrought, one two Ear'd Pot, two little one ear'd Pots, and a skimmer, one Sugar Box Tortoise fashion wrought, a set of Casters, a little Ladle, a Pick-Tooth Case wrought, one Wedding Ring, the Poetic, God above increase our Love; 24 Funeral Rings, two other great Rings, one Diamond Ring with seven stones, one Ring with a large Turkey stone, and two small Diamonds, one Ring set half round with small Diamonds, with 60 Pound in Gold and Silver. Whoever gives notice of these things or any part of them, or of the Persons that stole them to Capt. *Sam. Hankey* at the Ring under St. Dionis Backchurch in Fenchurch-street, shall have 10 l. reward.

Lost lately upon the Road between *Basingstoke* and *London*, a little black Shagreen Case with a Ladies Picture in it; Whoever brings it, or gives notice who has it to Mr. *John Knellen* in the great Piazza, in Covent-Garden, shall have a Guinea reward.

A Little Box of Writings was lost or stolen on the 20th of August last, out of a Coach near the *Welfphalia*, Ham in *Lothbury*, with a Diamond Ring and a double Guinea. Whoever brings the Box of Writings to *Dr. Baynard*, in *Arundel* Street over against the Blue Ball near St. Clements, or to Mr. *Church* in Bread Street, London, at the sign of the Sugar Loaf, shall have the Diamond Ring and double Guinea, with good satisfaction besides.

Stolen the 24th Instant out of the Grounds of Sir *John Curson* of *Waterperry* in *Oxfordshire*, a Bright bay Gelding, 15 hands high, no White about him, unless a Saddle Spot, a Splint taken off one of his fore Legs, and marks of the Grease in his Heels, about 19 years old, all his Paces. Whoever gives notice of the said Gelding to the aforesaid Sir *John Curson*, or to Alderman *Field* in *Oxford*, or to Mr. *John Guebury* in *Brick-Court* by *Deans-yard*, *Westminster*, shall have a Guinea reward.

Strayed or stolen out of the Pastures of *Nich. Payne* of *Neather* Gravens in *Bedfordshire* the 9th inst, a brown Bay Nag five years old, 14 hands high or more, hath a large white Star on his Forehead, and some white spots on the Saddle place on both sides, hath a cut Tail and hollow cloudy Eyes, Traces altogether. Whoever gives notice of him to Mr. *Payne* aforesaid, or to Mr. *William Willis* a Stationer at the sign of the Bible in *King Street Westminster*, shall have the same, be had again, shall have a Guinea reward.