

# The London Gazette.

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From Thursday April 22. to Monday April 26. 1686.

At the Court at *WHITEHALL*,  
This 26th day of *March*, 1686.

Present,  
The KING's Most Excellent Majesty,  
And the  
Lords of His Majesties Most Honourable  
Privy Council.

**W**hereas it has been Represented to His Majesty, That by reason of the frequent Abuses of a lewd sort of People, called SPIRITS, in seducing many of His Majesties Subjects to go on Shipboard, where they have been seized, and carried by force to His Majesties Plantations in America, and that many in Persons who have Lifted themselves Voluntarily to be Transported thither, and have received money upon their Entering into Service for that purpose, have afterwards pretended they were betrayed, and carried away against their Wills, and procured their Friends to procure the Merchants who Transported them, or in whose Service they are, by Indictments, or Informations in the Crown Office in His Majesties Name, which is a great Disturbance to them, and an Hindrance to the Management of the Trade of the said Plantations, and Navigation of this Kingdom; And several Merchants and Planters having made humble Applications to His Majesty; That He would be Graciously pleased to direct such Methods for their retaining of Servants to serve in His Majesties Plantations, as in His Royal Wisdom He should think meet, whereby His Majesty may be so satisfied of their Fair Dealing, as to take off all Prosecutions against them at His Majesties Suit; And also that the Scandal that now lies upon them in general, by reason of such Evil-disposed Persons, may not remain upon such as shall for the future follow such Methods as His Majesty shall think fit to be pursued.

His Majesty taking into His Royal Consideration the said Request, is Graciously pleased to Declare, That such Merchants, Factors, Masters of Ships, or other Persons that shall use the Method hereafter following, in the Hiring of Servants for His Majesties Plantations, shall not be Diligenced by any Suit on His Majesties behalf, but upon Certificate thereof, that He will cause all such Suits to be stopped, to the end they may receive no further molestation thereby.

I. Such Servants as are to be taken by Indenture, to be Executed by the Servant, in the presence of the Magistrate, or Magistrates hereafter appointed; One part thereof signed by such Servant, and also underwritten or endorsed with the Name and Hand-writing of such Magistrate, which is to remain with the Clerk of the Peace, to be returned to the next Sessions, there to be filed upon a distinct File, and numbered and kept with the Records.

II. The Clerk of the Peace is to keep a fair Book, wherein in the Name of the Person to be bound, and the Magistrates Name before whom the same was done, and the time and place of doing thereof, and the Number of Files shall be entered: And for the more ease finding the same, the Entries are to be made Alphabetically, according to the first Letter of the Surname.

III. All Persons above the Age of One and twenty years, or who shall, upon View and Examination, appear to be so in the Judgment of the Magistrate, may be bound in the presence of One Justice of the Peace, or of the Mayor, or chief Magistrate of the Place where they shall go on Shipboard, who is to be fully satisfied from him, of his free and voluntary Agreement, to enter into the said Service.

IV. If any Person be under the Age of One and Twenty years, or shall appear so to be, he shall be Bound in the presence of the Lord Mayor of London, or One of the Judges, or an Alderman of London, being a Justice of

Peace, or the Recorder, or Two Justices of the Peace of any other County, or Place, who shall carefully Examine whether the Person so to be bound, have any Parents or Masters; And if he be not Free, they are not to take such Indenture, unless the Parents, or Masters give their Consents, and some Person that knows the said Servant to be of the Name, and Addition mentioned in the Indenture, is to Attest his said knowledge upon the said Indenture.

V. If the Person be under the Age of Fourteen years, unless his Parents shall be present, and Consent, he is not to be carried on Shipboard, till a Fortnight at least, after he comes Bound, to the intent that if there be any Abuse, it may be discovered before he be Transported. And where his Parents do not appear before the Magistrate Notice is to be sent to them; or where they cannot be found, to the Churchwardens, or Overseers of the Parish where he was last Settled, in such manner as the said Magistrates shall think fit, and direct.

And because Clerks of the Peace may conceive this not to be any part of the Duty of their Office, and may therefore exact unreasonable Rewards for their trouble and pains therein, His Majesty doth Declare, That if any Merchants, or other Persons shall be aggrieved thereby, and upon Complaint to the Justices cannot obtain Relief, His Majesty will take such further care for their ease herein, as in His Royal Wisdom He shall think meet.

And His Majesties further Pleasure is, That this Order be Printed and Published, to the end all Persons whom it may concern, may take Notice thereof; and govern themselves accordingly.

W. BRIDGES, Act.

*Venice*, April 13. This morning arrived here an Express, by the way of *Oranto*, from *Corsou*, with the News that Captain-General *Morosini*, upon advice that Eight thousand *Turks* were marching towards *Zarnatz*, sailed the 26th past with the Fleet from *Corsou*, and having landed his Troops as near as he could to the said place, attacked the *Turks* in the night, of whom 3000 were slain, 800 taken, with all their Baggage and Cannon, and the rest put to flight; of which you may expect a more particular Account in our next.

*Vienna* April 14. The last Letters from *Zolnocke* told us, that Lieutenant-General *de Mercy*, having advice that the *Ottoman* Forces on that side were separated, had sent the Troops he drew together to observe them back to their several Quarters. The last advices from the Camp before *Mongatz* say, the *Imperialists* had almost drained the great Ditch, and were going to fill it; that they had taken several Persons whom the Besieged were sending to Count *Teckelej*, and were informed by them, that the Bombs which had been shot into the place had done considerable execution, but that the Besieged continued notwithstanding firm in their Resolution not to hearken to any Treaty, being confident they shall be relieved. Several Persons of Quality are come hither with intention to pass the Campaign in *Hungary*; The Recruits raised in the Empire arrive daily; and a great many Boats pass continually down the *Danube* laden with Provisions and Ammunition, to fill the Magazines that are providing at *Raab*, *Somora*, and other places in *Hungary*. The *Imperial* Forces, we are told, will act this Summer.