

# The London Gazette.

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Edinburgh, February 24.

**O**N Thursday, the 17th Instant, His Majesties Gracious Letter to the Lords of His Majesties most Honourable Privy Council of this Kingdom was read at the Board; After which their Lordships Unanimously Ordered, That His Majesties Royal Proclamation therein Enclosed should be published here the next day, which was accordingly performed with great Solemnity and Demonstrations of Joy. The Copies of which Gracious Letter and Proclamation, together with the Councils dutiful Answer to His Majesty thereupon, do here follow.

His Majesties Letter to His Privy Council of Scotland.

JAMES R.

**R**ight Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousins and Councellor, Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Councellor, Right Trusty and Entirely-beloved Cousins and Councellors, Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousins and Councellors, Right Trusty and Well-beloved Cousins and Councellors, Right Trusty and Well-beloved Councellors, and Trusty and Well-beloved Councellors, We Greet you well. Whereas by Our Letter of the 21st day of August last past, We were Graciously pleased to inform you of Our Designs in order to the Ease of Our Roman Catholick Subjects, unto which We had your Dutiful Answer in some days thereafter; We have now thought fit to publish these Our Royal Intentions, and to give an Additional Ease to those of Tender Consciences, so to convince the World of Our Inclinations to Moderation, and to evidence that those of the Clergy who have been Regular, are Our most particular Care; though We have given some Ease to those whose Principles We can with any Safety trust: We have at the same time expressed Our highest Indignation against those Enemies of Christianity as well as Government and Humane Society, The Field-Convenciers, whom We recommend to you to Root out with all the Severities of Our Laws; and with the most vigorous Prosecution of Our Forces, it being equally Our, and Our People's Concern, to be rid of them. As for the other Particulars of Our Royal Proclamation here inclosed, We doubt not but they will appear to you most just and reasonable as they do to Us, and that you will in your respective Capacities assert and defend Our Royal Rights and Prerogatives, which We are resolved to maintain in that Splendor and Greatness which can only make them safe for Us, Supports for Our Friends, and Terrors to Our Enemies. It is evident, We do not mean to encroach on the

Consciences of any, and what We will not do, We are resolved not to suffer in others; And therefore it is Our Will and Pleasure, That these Our Commands be forthwith obeyed, and that in order thereunto, this Our Proclamation be forthwith Printed and Published in the usual manner in such Cases accustomed; And if any shall be so bold as to shew any dislike of this Our Procedour, We desire to be informed thereof by you, To the end We may convince the World that We are in Earnest, assuring All, That as We expect Obedience therein, and a Readiness from you and all Our Judicatures to assert Our Rights, so it shall be Our Care on all Occasions to shew Our Royal Favours to all of you in General, and to every one in Particular. For doing all these things as well contained in this Our Letter, as in Our Proclamation aforesaid, These Presents shall be to you, and all others respectively who may be therein anyway concerned, a sufficient Warrant. And so We bid you Heartily Farewell.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the 12th day of February 1685. And of Our Reign the Third Year.

By His Majesties Command,

MELFORT,

By the KING.

A. P R O C L A M A T I O N.

JAMES R.

**J**A M E S the Seventh, by the Grace of GOD, King of Scotland, England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and sundry Our Good Subjects, whom these presents do or may concern, Greeting: We having taken into Our Royal Consideration the many and great inconveniencies, which have happened to that Our Ancient Kingdom of Scotland, in late years, through the different Persecutions in the Christian Religion; and the great Heats and Animosities amongst the several Professors thereof; so the ruine and decay of Trade, wasting of Lands, ending in the want of Charity, contempt of the Royal Power, and contumaciousness of true Religion; and the Fear of GOD, into Animosities, Divisions, Factions, and sometimes into Sacrilege and Treason. And being resolved, as much as in Us lieth, to Unite the Hearts and Affections of Our Subjects to GOD in Religion; to Us in Loyalty; and to their Neighbours in Christian Love and Charity: Have therefore thought fit to Grant and by Our Sovereign Authority, Prerogative Royal, and Absolute Power, which all Our Subjects are to obey without Reserve; Do hereby Give and Grant Our Royal