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A C T of His Majesties Privy Council of Scotland, for a Solemn and Publick Thanksgiving throughout the Kingdom; upon Her Royal Majesties being with Child.

Edinburgh, the seventeenth day of January, 1688.
S Ince it hath pleased Almighty G.O.D. the Fountain of all Life, by whom Kings Reign and Kingdoms are established, to grant unto the Kings most excellent Majesty, fresh hopes of Royal Issue, by his most Serene Consort, Our Gracious Queen Mary, who (through the great Goodness and Blessing of God) is now with Child; And considering, that the multiplying of the Branches of the Royal Family (especially Alluing from our present Sacred Sovereign, James, the Seventh, under whose Auspicious, Wise and Clement Government, We enjoy so much Prosperity, Peace and Plenty) Is a most Desirable Blessing, a Native Support and Strengthening of the Crown; and by just Consequence a publick Blessing to this Kingdom; Tending to the further Security of the Peace and Happiness thereof; His Majesty therefore (with the Humble and Earnest Desire, and by the Advice of his Privy Council) Hath thought fit upon this important Occasion, to set apart, and appoint a times for rendering Devout and Solemn Thanks to G.O.D. for this great Mercy and Blessing, and for offering Publick and Hearty Prayers to His Divine Majesty, To Bless and Preserve the Sacred Person of our Dread Sovereign Lord the King, to Prosper his Reign with Honourable and Glorious Successes, and to Prolong his Life, that he may see his Childrens Children, and his Throne may be as his Sun; As also that he may Bless, Preferre and Strengthen, His Royal Consort the Queens Majesty, and make perfect his Work begun for Her, may save and Defend Her from all Dangers and evil Accidents, that what she hath conceived, may be Preserved and Happily brought forth, to the Joy of our Sovereign Lord the King, the further Security of his Crown, and the Happiness and Establishment of this Kingdom.

For this end, His Majesty, with Advice foresaid, Doth Appoint and Ordain that the foresaid Thanksgiving and Prayers be Devoutly and Solemnly performed, in all the Paroch-Churches within the City and Diocess of Edinburgh upon the Twenty Ninth day of January instant, and in all the other Churches within this Kingdom, upon the Nineteenth day of February next. And His Majesty accordingly Requires and Commands, the most Reverend, and right Reverend, the Arch-Bishops and Bishops, to take care, that in all the Paroch-Churches, within their respective Diocesses, these Prayers and Thanksgivings be accordingly Celebrate, by all the Ministers and Presbyters under their Jurisdiction, and that they cause incitation to be made hereof, by reading of the same, from the Pulpits in the several Paroch-Churches, the Lords-day, immediately preceeding the said Solemn days of publick Thanksgiving, respectively. And finally, His Majesty Charges and Commands, all his Loving Subjects, heartily to joyne and concur in these Religious and Dutifull Performances, as they should shew their Piety and Loyalty, in praying for the Life of the King, the Increase of his Royal Issue, and the further Security of the Crown, and the Establishment of the Peace and Happiness in this His Ancient Kingdom. And that the said Prayers may be made publick and known; His Majesty commands His Lyon King at Armes, and his Brethren Herald, the Masters of the Privy Council, and Performers, to pass to the Mercat-Cross of Edinburgh, and other places publick; and there to open Proclamation, and with all accustomed Solemnities on extraordinary Occasions, make publication of the Premises, that none may pretend ignorance. Extracted forth of the Records of Privy Council, by Sir William Percival Baronet, Clerk of His Majesties most Honourable Privy Council.

WILL. PATERSON, Cls. Sti. Concilii.

Venice, Jan. 16. By Letters from Athens of the 15th of December we have an account, that the 2000 Turks left at Thebes continue to send out Parties from time to time,

though there is but little prejudice received by them; A Slave that run from thence reports, that the Serasquier (who some time since retired to Volo with about 4000 of his Men) having received Information, that there was an Order coming from Constantinople for his being Apprehended, he did not think fit to expect its arrival, but made his escape towards B. Licia; whereupon the Troops under his command were dispersed. There lay a Squadron of the Ships of this State on the side of Volo, and some Gallies in the Channel of Negropont, to prevent all Succors being sent thither by Sea, whilst the Land Forces have a watchful eye that nothing considerable can pass over the Bridge that joins the Island to the Continent; and it was said (but without any great certainty) that the Albanese had met with a Son of the Serasquier, and carried him away prisoner. There lay 3 Men of War with 4 Galeots before Napoli di Malvasia, and it was at the same time block'd up by Land; and we hear that General Morosini desires only 12000 Men to be sent him against Spring, with which assistance he does not doubt but to make himself Master of that place, Negropont, and of all Greece. They write from Constantinople that the Army have received their Pay and usual Donative of 1000 Aspers to each Janissary, and 3000 to each Spahli; and on the 17th of November the Ceremony was performed of putting on the Sword to the new Sultán; the particulars whereof are not yet sent; and this being done, it was expected that the Janissaries and Spahli's would have their Orders to begin their march towards Belgrade; and that the Grand Visier would follow them as soon as he had dispatched what was remaining for him to do in placing of Officers, and leaving with them his Orders how they are to govern things in his absence. One of the Princes of Saxony hath offered the Senate to raise 3000 Men for their service the next Campaign; and the Prince of Hanover will send the like number; and it is intended to raise 10000 Men in Dalmatia.

Vienna, Jan. 18. The departure of the Emperor from Inspruck seems to be fixed on the 25th, and he is expected here on the 26th; and the next day after will be the opening of the States of Lower Austria. The Letters from Count Caraffa mention, That Teckeleys Gentleman of the Horse had been with him; to give him an account, that the Turks had seized Teckeleys at Waradin, and were carrying him under a strong Guard further into the Country. They did not explain themselves what they intended to do with him, but he was himself apprehensive of the worst, and therefore sent by him Instructions and Advice to his Wife, That she should in time provide for her own safety, as also for those that were with her: So he was dispatch'd with a Passport to Mantua; and it is expected at his return, that he will bring advice of their readiness to submit: And the rather, since the States at Presbourg had lately writ to the Princes of Ragorski; to exhort her to return, with the rest of the Kingdom, to the Obedience of their Lawfull Sovereign; and if she did not continue in a fatal obstinacy, the Door of Mercy was not yet shut; but she and her Adherents might be included in the general Amnesty, if she had her immediate recourse to the Imperial Clemency. The Dyet at Presbourg, in return to the Emperors Congratulations towards them, particularly in

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