

# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday September 20. to Monday September 24. 1688.

By the KING,

## A DECLARATION.

JAMES R.

**H**aving already signified Our Pleasure to call a Parliament to meet at Our City of Westminster in November next, and Writs of Summons being issued out accordingly; lest those, whose Right it is to choose Members of Parliament should be under any Prejudices and Mistakes through the Artifices of disaffected Persons: We think fit to Declare, That as it is Our Royal Purpose to endeavour a Legal Establishment of an universal Liberty of Conscience for all Our Subjects; It is also Our Resolution Inviolably to preserve the Church of England, by such a Confirmation of the several Acts of Uniformity, that they shall never be altered any other ways, then by Repealing the several Clauses, which inflict Penalties upon Persons not promoted or to be promoted to any Ecclesiastical Benefices or Promotions within the meaning of the said Acts, for using and exercising their Religion contrary to the Tenor and Purport of the said Acts of Uniformity. And for the further Securing not only the Church of England but the Protestant Religion in general; We are willing the Roman Catholics shall remain incapable to be Members of the House of Commons, whereby those Fears and Apprehensions will be removed, which many Persons have had, That the Legislative Authority would be engrossed by them, and turned against Protestants.

We do likewise assure all Our Loving Subjects, That We shall be ready to do every thing else, for their Safety and Advantage, that becomes a King, who will always take Care of his People, And if they desire the happiness of their Country, We Exhort them to lay by all Animosities, and dispose themselves to think of such Persons to represent them in Parliament, whose Abilities and Temper render them fit for so Great and Good a Work.

And for the preventing of any Disorders, Irregularities or undue Proceedings whatsoever, that may happen either before or at the time of Election of Members for the ensuing Parliament, We do hereby strictly Require and command all Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, and other Officers whatsoever, to whom the Execution of any Writ, Summons, Warrant or Precept, for or concerning the Choice of Members for the ensuing Parliament shall belong, That they cause such Writ, Summons, Warrant or Precept, to be duly Published and Executed according to the Tenor thereof: And the Members that shall be chosen, to be fairly Returned, according to the true Merits of the Choice.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the One and twentieth day of September, 1688. In the Fourth Year of Our Reign.

*Venice, Sept. 8.* The freshest Advices from our Army are, That they had taken by Assault the Castle of Carambaba, which was lately built by the Turks to cover the Bridge of Negropont; That they had raised several Batteries against the Town, and carried on their Attacks with that Success that they hoped to be in a short time Masters of it. A Bark arrived from Ragusa brings news that the Venetian Forces, commanded by the Proveditore-General Cornaro, had been employed nine days in the Siege of Chm, which was advanced so far that the Besieged had desired a Parley, and offered to surrender the place if they were not relieved in eight days, but that General Cornaro had allowed them but 24 hours to resolve what to do; after which he had declared he would not grant them any Conditions.

*Venice, Sept. 13.* A Report is brought hither by a Vessel come from Candia, That the Venetians have taken Negrepont.

*Vienna, Sept. 13.* The Turkish Ambassadors arrived the 8th instant in the Imperial Camp before Belgrade, from whence the Duke of Lorrain was preparing to march with all the Cavalry on some great design. Of the Victory in Bosnia, which is so extraordinary an action that it seems almost incredible; we have this account, That Prince Louis being informed on the 4th instant that four or five thousand Turks were Encamped about six miles from Bred, he took with him three thousand Horse and Dragoons; and marched all Night, to attack them, but to his great surprize, he found they were above 15000, under the command of the Bassa of Bosnia; whereupon, calling his Officers together, he told them it was too late to retreat, they must now fight for their Lives and Victory, which was cheerfully received, and by that time they had put themselves into a posture of defence the Enemy had surrounded them, and made 4 or 5 vigorous Charges, but were repulsed with that Bravery, that the Horse fled and left the Foot to the mercy of the Imperialists, who killed 5000, and took 2000 Prisoners, with 36 Colors, and all the Enemies Baggage.

*Vienna, Sept. 16.* The Letters from Belgrade of the Tenth instant tell us, That in cleansing the Town and the Castle there were found about 7000 dead Bodies, which they had thrown into the River; and that there were 3000 Prisoners, of which number was the Bassa of Belgrade, with two other Bassas, who saved themselves, and about 500 more that retired into the lower Town, by placing before them 300 Christian Slaves chained together, who must have received the Shot that was made at the Enemy, which stopt the Soldiers in their heat of Blood; and the Elector, so soon as he had notice of it, commanded, That Quarter should be given them. The Bassa being brought to his Electoral Highness, fell prostrate before him, and after returning him Thanks for saving his life, prayed he might not be put into the hands of the Hungarians or Rascians: His Electoral Highness answered