

I am Commanded by the King, (*My Lords and Gentlemen*) to tell you, That as He resolves to Live and Die in the sincere Profession of the True Protestant Religion; for the maintenance whereof, He is again about to expose His Royal Person; so He is willing to concur with you, for the Settlement of Church and State, upon such Solid Foundations as you need not again fear a Relapse into your former Evils.

He is ready to give His Royal Assent, to what in Justice can be proposed to him for securing Religion, Liberty and Property, from all future Encroachments, and for redressing of other Grievances, and you cannot with Reason Demand any thing, which he is not willing to Grant.

His Majesty offers redress to the Oppressed, Pardon and Peace to submitting Enemies, and Protection to all His good Subjects.

I am further impowred by His Majesty, to give His Royal Burroughs, such Encouragement and Redress in the matter of Trade, and such ease in Relation to the Proportion of their Burdens, as the Parliament shall think fit.

What then remains, but that you behave with such Zeal for the good of your Country, as to its Religious and Civil Concerns, and the Honour of your Prince, as this Session of Parliament may have an Issue, which may be to the Satisfaction of both.

I should be injurious to you to doubt of this, or to think you need any Perswasions, to set about those things Effectually, which are so much your own Concern.

You know the Eyes of those whom you represent, as also of your Neighbour, and even your Enemies, are upon you; expecting what may be the result of your meeting: In which the Kings Allies, as well as all his Subjects, and our Protestant Friends abroad are not a little concerned.

You need not, that I recommend to you the laying aside all Animosities, Piques and Quarrels, and shunning all occasions of Contention, seeing this is so much your own Interest, and that these would be a great retardment to the work you have in hand. I am hopeful that you will endeavour to evidence to the World, that it is not Private or Selfish Designs, but Zeal to God, and the true Religion, and Love to your King and Country, which influence you.

I wish there may be many found amongst you in this Meeting, like those who represented the Tribe of *Isachar*, for setting the Kingdom in the hands of *David*; Men who had understanding of the Times, to know what *Israel* ought to do.

I hope you will not take it Ill, that I mind you of that useful Precept of the Apostle, *Let your Moderation be known unto all men*, for the Unfriends of our Nation have taken occasion to reproach us more for the vehemence of our Temper, than any thing else.

As for my Self, *My Lords and Gentlemen* (whom His Majesty hath Honoured with a Character far above my Ambition) I shall not say much, having no design before my Eyes, but the Publick Good, and what is clearly your own Interests.

I have no Apologies to make, as having been neither an Actor in, or Complyer with, what hath been Grievous to you, or prejudicial to the Nation, I hope my Deportment and Sufferings the by-past part of my Life, will (at least ought to) secure me from all Suspicions of being a Promoter of Arbitrary Power; And I am sure, my Master whom I Serve, is far from Designing, or Desiring any such thing, whatever His or our Enemies may Suggest.

I acknowledge, that what Trust His Majesty hath been pleased to Confer upon me, is above my Strength, but it shall be my endeavour to supply my other Defects, by an intire Faithfulness to the King my Master, a sincere Respect to you, and a zealous Application for promoting of the true Religion, and common Good of all.