

# The London Gazette.

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Westminster, January 5.

**H**IS Majesty came this day to the House of Peers, attended with the usual Solemnity, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne, and the Commons being sent for up, His Majesty gave the Royal Assent to

An Act for appointing and enabling Commissioners to examine, take, and state the Publick Accounes of the Kingdom.

An Act for the Raising the Militia of this Kingdom for the year 1691: altho the Months Pay formerly advanced be not repaid.

An Act for Relief of Poor Prisoners for Debt or Damages.

An Act for preventing vexatious Suits against such as acted for Their Majesties Service in Defence of the Kingdom.

An Act for the Encouraging the Distilling of Brandy and Spirits from Corn, and for laying several Duties on Low Wines or Spirits of the first Extraction.

An Act for Granting to Their Majesties several Additional Duties of Excise upon Beer, Ale, and other Liquors, for Four Years, from the time that an Act for Doubling the Duty of Excise upon Beer, Ale, and other Liquors, during the space of One Year, doth expire.

An Act for the more effectual putting in Execution an Act, Entituled, An Act for Prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with France.

An Act to Enable Thomas Earl of Aylesbury, and Elizabeth Countess of Aylesbury his Wife, to make Provision for payment of Debts, and to make Leases of their Estates.

An Act for Incorporating the Proprietors of the Water-works in York-buildings, and for the encouraging, carrying on, and setting, the said Water-works.

An Act for Vesting certain Lands (the Estate of Thomas Manwaring Gent.) in Trustees, to be sold for the Payment of Debts.

An Act to enable John Rossiter Esq; to sell Lands in Payment of Debts.

After which, His Majesty was pleased to make a most Gracious Speech to Both Houses of Parliament, as follows.

My Lords and Gentlemen,  
**H**aving lately told you, That it would be necessary for Me to go into Holland much about this time, I am very glad to find, that the Success of your Endeavours to bring this Session to a happy Conclusion has been such, that I am now at Liberty to do it. And I return you My hearty Thanks for the great Dispatch you have made in finishing the Supplies you were Design'd for Carrying on the War; which it shall be My Care to see Duly and Punctually Applied to the Service for which you have given them. And

I do likewise think it proper to assure you, That I shall not make any Grant of the Forfeited Lands in England or Ireland, till there be another Opportunity of Settling that Matter in Parliament, in such Manner as shall be thought most Expedient.

My Lords and Gentlemen,  
As I have Reason to be very well Satisfied with the Proofs you have given Me of your good Affections in this Session of Parliament, so I promise My Self the Continuance of the same at your Return into your several Countries. And as every Day produces still fresh Instances of the Resistiveness of Our Enemies, both at Home and Abroad, in Designing against the Prosperity of this Nation and the Government Established; So I do not doubt, but that the Union and good Correspondence between Me and My Parliament, and My Earnest and Constant Endeavours for your Preservation on the one hand, joined with the Continuance of your Zeal and Affection to support Me on the other, will, by the Blessing of God, be at all times too strong for the utmost Malice and Contrivance of Our Common Enemies.

And then the Lord Chief Baron, Speaker of the House of Lords, declared to Both Houses, That it was His Majesties Pleasure, that They should Adjourn themselves unto the 31<sup>th</sup> of March next; And that if His Majesty should think fit that the Parliament should then Sit, He would give them timely Notice thereof by His Proclamation. And accordingly Both Houses of Parliament did Adjourn to the 31<sup>th</sup> of March next.

Dublin, December 29. On Wednesday last arrived here the Right Honourable Sir Charles Porter, appointed by His Majesty to be one of the Lords Justices and Lord Chancellor of this Kingdom; and the 26<sup>th</sup> the Privy-Council met, where the Lords Justices new Commission was read, and Sir Charles Porter and Thomas Coningsby Esq; two of the Lords Justices, were sworn with the usual Solemnity.

The Lords Justices and Council having reason to suspect, that several dangerous Persons going as Spies from the Rebels Quarters, and upon other wicked Designs, are sheltered in this City by such Papists, Natives of this Kingdom, as keep Taverns and other Publick Houses, and there frequently meet to contrive, as much as in them lyes, the Subversion of their good Subj-cts of this Kingdom, and the Ruin of their good Subj-cts of the 12<sup>th</sup> of this instant December, to Prohibit and Forbid all Papists, Natives of this Kingdom, to sell any Wine, Ale, Beer, or other Liquors by-Retail, after the 25<sup>th</sup> of this Month, upon pain of being proceeded against as Retailers of Wine and other Liquors without Licence.

By a late Defenter from the Rebels Quarters, we have the confirmation of the great scarcity there is among