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Whitehall, December 2.

This Day was Observed the General Thanksgiving for His Majesty's Safe Return, and the Happy Conclusion of the Peace; His Majesty came to Whitehall Chapel, where the Bishop of Salisbury Preached; was pleased to Dine with the Earl of Romney; and in the Evening saw the Fireworks in St. James's Square. The Quire of St. Pauls was opened the same day; and at night there were Bonfires and Illuminations in all parts of London and Westminster, with other suitable Demonstrations of Joy.

Westminster, Dec. 3. The Parliament met this day, and the King being come to the House of Peers, and seated on the Throne in His Royal Robes with the usual Solemnity, the Commons were sent for up by the Usher of the Black Rod, who attending His Majesty accordingly, His Majesty made a most Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, which follows.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE War, which I Entered into by the Advice of My People is, by the Blessing of God, and their Zealous and Affectious Assistance, brought to the End We all Proposed, an Honourable Peace; which I was willing to Conclude, not so much to Ease My Self from any Trouble or Hazard, as to free the Kingdom from the Continuing Burden of an Expensive War.

I am heartily sorry My Subjects will not at first find all that Relief from the Peace, which I could wish, and they may expect; but the Funds intended for the last Years Service have fallen short of Answering the Sums for which they were given, so that there remain considerable Deficiencies to be Provided for.

There's a Debt upon the Account of the Fleet and the Army. The Revenues of the Crown have been Anticipated, by My Consent, for Publick Uses; so that I am wholly Destitute of Means to Support the Civil List; and I can never Distrust you'll Suffer this in turn to My Disadvantage, but will Provide for Me, during My Life, in such a manner as may be for My Honour, and for the Honour of the Government.

Our Naval Force being increased to near double what it was at My Accession to the Crown, the Charge of maintaining it will be proportionably augmented, and it is certainly necessary for the Interest and Reputation of England, to have always a great Strength at Sea.

The Circumstances of Affairs Abroad are such, that I think My Self obliged to tell you My Opinion, That for the present, England cannot be Safe without a Land Force; and I hope We shall not give those who mean Us ill, the opportunity of Effecting that, under the Notion of a Peace, which they could not bring to pass by a War.

I doubt not but you, Gentlemen of the House of Commons, will take these Particulars into your Consideration, in such a manner as to Provide the necessary Supplies, which I do very Earnestly Recommend to you.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

That which I most delight to think of, and am best pleased to see, is, That I have all the Proofs of My Peoples Affection that a Prince can desire; and I take this Occasion to give them the most solemn Assurance, That as I never had, so I never will not have any Interest separate from theirs.

I Esteem it one of the greatest Advantages of the Peace, that I shall now have leisure to repress such Corruptions or Abuses, as may have crept into any part of the Administration during the War, and effectually to Discourage Prophaneness and Immorality; and I shall employ My Thoughts in Promoting Trade, and Advancing the Happiness and Flourishing Estate of the Kingdom.

I shall conclude with telling you, That as I have, with the Hazard of every thing, Rescued your Religion, Law and Liberties; when they were in the Extremest Danger, so I shall Place the Glory of My Reign, in Preserving them Entire, and Leaving them so to Posterity.

Kensington, Dec. 4. The following Address from the City of Winchester, was sent up by his Grace the Duke of Bolton, and

presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable the Lord William Pawlet, one of their Representatives in Parliament.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Address of the Mayor, Bayliffs, and Commonality of your Ancient City of Winchester.

Great SIR,

After our Unfeigned Thanks to Almighty God, for the Preservation of your Sacred Person from those many and imminent Dangers you have so often Exposed your Self to for the Good of us your People; by your unparalleled Goodness and Courage refused from the Bonds of Popery and Tyranny.

We beg leave to lay at your Feet our humble Acknowledgments and Congratulation for your safe and Triumphal Return to these your Kingdoms, Crowned with Peace and good Success which the Glory of your Arms hath obtained for us and all Christendom; and which we hope long to reap the Benefit of, with the additional Blessing of enjoying your Royal Presence amongst us, freed from the Hazards and careful Fatigues of Foreign Expeditions.

Be pleased therefore, Great Sir, to give us leave to assure your Majesty, that we will on all occasions use our utmost endeavour to Defend your Sacred Person, and your Just and Legal Right to your Crown and Government, against all your Enemies whatsoever both at home and abroad, and never cease to Implore the Divine Blessing on your Royal Person in a long Life and a Happy and Peaceful Reign over us.

The following Address from Andover was presented to His Majesty by Roger Mompesson Esq; Steward, and other Members of the said Corporation; introduced by the Right Honourable John Smith Esq; one of the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Address of the Bayliff, Steward, Approved Men and Burgesses of Andover.

WE Your Majesty's Most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Bayliff, Steward, and Approved Men and Burgesses of Your Ancient Corporation of Andover, being fully sensible of Your Majesty's Hereditary and Heroick Inclinations towards the Good and Liberty of Mankind, which Your Majesty hath in an Eminent Manner given Demonstrations of in Preserving these Nations from those Apparent Dangers that lately Threatned both the Church and State.

We cannot but Esteem Your Majesty as well a peculiar Blessing to these Kingdoms as the Glorious Instrument of Almighty God in our Deliverance.

And Your Majesty having Completed our Felicity by obtaining for us and Europe such an Honourable Peace, as we doubt not will be lasting, since it hath Your Majesty's Courage and Conduct for its Security: As an humble Acknowledgment of all this Transcendent Goodness to us and our Neighbours abroad, we in a most humble manner beg leave to Assure Your Majesty, that our Lives and Fortunes, which Your Majesty hath so Generously Preserved, shall upon all Occasions be exposed to the utmost Hazards whensoever the Service of Your Majesty's Royal Person and Government shall require it. And our fervent Prayers and utmost Endeavours shall always be, That Your Majesty's Reign may be long and prosperous over us and all Your Dominions.

The following Address from Dover was presented to His Majesty by Sir Basil Dixwell Kt. one of their Representatives in Parliament, introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Romney, Lord Warden of the Cinque-Ports.

To His Majesty, WILLIAM the Third, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith. &c.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE the Mayor, Jurats, Common-Council, Gentlemen and Inhabitants of Your Majesties Town and Port of Dover, (Conscientiously Faithful to You, as well from the Tyes of our former

Voluntary and Early Association, as from the great Obligations of Duty and Loyalty do now humbly beg Leave, among the most truly Affectionate Subjects, to Congratulate Your Majesty's Happy Return amongst us, after having Re-established these Your Nations and all Europe in Peace.

Your Majesty came over at first to restore us to our Religion, Liberties, and Properties, You have ever since undergone the Innumerable Dangers of a tedious War to defend them for us; And 'tis, under God, by Your Majesty's Indefatigable Valour and Conduct they are now secur'd to us.

These being the greatest Engagements and Blessings Subjects can receive from, or Enjoy under, the best of Princes, We do now, in all Gratitude and humble Sincerity, assure Your Majesty of the utmost Return we are Capable of, by the repeated tender of our Lives and Fortunes in Your Majesty's Service, Earnestly praying God Almighty, that, as he hath Protected Your Majesty in the days of Battel, and Enabled You gloriously to overcome all Your open Enemies, He wou'd now also carefully preserve Your Majesty's Person from Your and our Countrys, more Treacherous and Barbarous, Secret ones; Long continuing to us the great Blessings of Your Majesty's Life and Happy Reign over us, with all Opportunities of expressing our selves Your Majesty's most sincerely Faithful, Loyal, and Affectionate Subjects.

The humble Address of the Mayor and Burgesss of the Town and County of Nottingham, was presented to His Majesty by Richard Lister, and John Tombsough. Introduced by his Grace the Duke of Devonshire Recorder of the Town.

The Humble Address of the High Steward, Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen, and other the Principal Inhabitants of the Bur-ough of St. Albans in the County of Hertford, was presented to His Majesty by Sir Sam Grimston Bar. and George Churchill Esq; being introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Marlborough.

The Humble Address of the Bayliff, Recorder, Aldermen, Common Council, Burgesss, and Inhabitants of the Corporation of Brecon in South-Wales, was presented to His Majesty by Jeffrey Jeffreys Esq; their Representative in Parliament, introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Portland.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-Council of the City of Durham, was presented to His Majesty by the Honourable Charles Mountague and Sir Henry Liddell Bar. their Representatives in Parliament, introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Scarborough.

The humble Address of the Lord Lieutenant, Deputy Lieutenants, High Sheriff, and Justices of the Peace of the County of Northumberland; As also the humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Sheriff, and Common-Council of the Town and County of Newcastle upon Tyne, were both presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable the Earl of Scarborough.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Deputy Recorder, Aldermen, Burgesss, and Principal Inhabitants within the Corporation of Tunton, was presented to His Majesty by Edward Clarke Esq; one of their Representatives in Parliament.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common-Council, with the Clergy and Gentry of the Corporation and Borough of Leicester, was presented to His Majesty by Lawrence Carter Esq; their Recorder, introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Stamford.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Burgesss a d other Inhabitants of the Ancient Corporation and Bur-ough of Macclesfield in the County of Cheshire, was presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable the Earl of Rivers and Sir John Manwaring.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Common-Council, Burgesss and Gentlemen of the Borough and Corporation of Ripon, was presented to His Majesty by John Ashby and Jonathan Jennings, Esquires, their Representatives in Parliament.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Capital Burgesss, Freemen, and other Inhabitants of the Borough of Lyme-Regis in the County of Dorset, was presented to His Majesty by Robert Henly Esq; one of their Representatives in Parliament.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Burgesss, and other Inhabitants of the Corporation and Borough of Pontefract in the County of York, was presented to His Majesty by Sir William Lowther and Robert Monteton Esq; their Representatives in Parliament.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Burgesss, Gentlemen, and other Inhabitants of the Corporation of Doncaster, was presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable the Lord Fairfax and Sir John Kay.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesss of the Corporation of Portsmouth, was presented to His Majesty by Col. Gibson and W. Stbrock Esq; Recorder, their Representatives in Parliament, being introduced by Major General Estle.

The humble Address of the Dean and Prebendaries of the Cathedral Church of Winchester, was presented to His Majesty by the Dean and several of the Prebendaries.

The humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Justices, Bayliffs, Burgesss, and other the Inhabitants of the Town of Berwick upon Tweed, was presented to His Majesty by the Honourable Ralph Gry, and Samuel Ogle, Esquires, their Representatives in Parliament.

Which Addresses His Majesty received very Graciously.

London, Dec. 4. This day at an Admiralty Sessions held at the Old-Baily, John Williams, John Allen, William Matthews, and John Jones, being 4 of the Ship's Crew that seized and carried away the Hamble, near the Coast of Guinea, were tried and found Guilty of Piracy, and received Sentence of Death as is usual in such Cases.

Kennington, Dec. 2. This day the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge presented to His Majesty a Book of Verse, in the Name of the University, upon the happy Conclusion of the Peace.

Kennington, Dec. 5. His Majesty has been pleas'd, upon the Resignation of Mr. Secretary Trumbull, to make choice of the Right Honourable James Vernon Esq; to succeed him in the Office of One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; who accordingly this Evening in Council took the usual Oaths of Secretary of State, and Privy-Councillor.

The Mail from Holland is not yet come in.

The Court of Directors of the Government and Company of the Bank of England give notice, That a General Court of the Members of the said Company will be held at the Bank on Wednesday the first day of December Instant, at Ten in the morning; And that the Transfer Books will be shut up from the 22th Instant to the 7th of January next; That from the said 7th of January to the 25th Ditto Transfers will be made only on two days in a week, viz. on Tuesday and Thursday mornings; And from and after the said 25th of January, the Transfers Books will be open as usually.

Whereas Information hath been given, That one Tho. Home, Joseph Lynes, and William Lane now in Custody, together with one John Edmonds, who goes by the Name of Great Jack; a tall big well-set black Man, late a Bayliff in the County of Cambridge, John Quarrington late of Avington in the County of Bucks, a middle sized raw-brow'd Man, and of a fresh Complexion, and Will. Lynes, late of Great Goddessen in the County of Hertford, a middle sized thin black Man, a Smith by Trade, who are withdrawn from their usual Haunts, have been (with some others) concern'd in divers Robberies, particularly in a Robbery committed about Michaels last near Uxbridge in the Counties of Middlesex and Bucks, another about six Weeks since near Dunstable in Bedfordshire; and another robbery about a week ago upon the Road between Cambridge and New-Market; and also in stealing several Horses, some whereof have been found in their Custody; They are to give Notice to all Persons, who have been so rob'd or lost any Horses, that they may see the said Home, Lynes, and Lane in New-Gate, and the Compters in London, that so by their Evidence they may be prosecuted according to Law.

Advertisements.

A Perpetual Adrowson, being of the yearly value of 350 l. in a pleasant Country and very good Air, is to be sold. Enquire of Samuel Heyrick at Grays Inn Gate in Molborn, Stationer, and you may be better inform'd.

THE Instrument of Agreement between the Creditors and the Relations of Edward Backwell Esq; deceased, is lodged with Mr. Symms at Mr. Snaggs at the Flying Horse in Lombardstreet, and with Mr. Balfour, Bookseller, at the Miner within Temple-Bar; Where all Creditors of the said Edward Backwell, that have not yet subscribed, or some appointed by them, are desired to repair and subscribe the same, in order to their speedy receiving the Benefit of the said Agreement.

All Persons who have any Plate, Jewels, or other things at Pawn in the hands of Joseph Fells, Goldsmith, or are otherwise indebted to his Estate, are to take notice, that unless they pay such Money to Mr. Christopher Rednapp, Upholsterer, at the Cock in Whitechapel, by the 21st Instant, such Plate and Jewels will be disposed of, and the Debt proceed against according to Law for recovery of the said Debt.

The Song Composed by Mr. Jeremiah Clarke, and Sung on St. Cecilia's-Day, will be performed on Thursday next the 9th Instant, at Mr. Mickford's Dancing-School in Pantons-Court, or in James-street over-against the Tennis-Court, just by the Blue-Post, there being a Door out of each Street to the Room, and for the Benefit of the said Mr. Clark and Mr. Le Riche late Steward of the said Feast. The Music begins at Eight.

Lost on Tuesday night last between the Maypole in the Strand and St. James's, or between that and Marsham Street, Westminster, 4 Lottery Tickets of 5 l. each, viz. dated 25 March 1696, N. 516. 29 Sept. 1696, N. 516. 25 March 1697, N. 516. and 29 Sept. 1697, N. 516. whereof notice has been already given at the Office where Payment of such Ticks is made, and entered in their Books. Whoever brings them to Mr. Barnes, Bookseller, in the Pall-Mall, shall have 20 s. Reward.

Lost on Thursday the 2d Instant in the Pall-Mall, a Pocket Book, having a Velum Cover, wherein is some Account and Bills, of little use to any but the Owner. Whoever brings it to Mr. Balfour at his Coffee house in Cornhill, shall have 10 s. Reward.

Lost Two Exchequer Bills for 10 l. each, both dated June 4. 1697. N. 57563, 57564, with Indorsements on each of them, and two of 5 l. each, one dated Aug. 6. 1697, N. 11959, the other Aug. 10. 1697; N. 80301, and one Guinea inclosed in a Letter directed to Mr. Williams, Merchant, at Worcester, the 20th past. Whoever brings the said Bill to Stephen Thompson at the bottom of Queenstreet, London, or to Will. Hart at Worcester, shall have 3 Guinea's Reward.

Lost or left in a Hackney Coach the 29th past in the Evening, going from Princes Street, Leicestersfields, to the Royal-Exchange, a Money Bag mark'd M. R. in which were 5 Writings, 3 of which were Leaves of the Earl of Leicester at d Vicounts Life of Ground-Rent, one to Rob. Drinkwater, and another to John Blondell; and the other a Reversion Lease of the same Parcel to Michael Rolls, and the other 2 relating to the same Estate. Whoever brings the same to Michael Rolls at his House in Threadneedle-Street, shall have a Guinea Reward.