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Edinburgh, October 3.

THis being the Day appointed for the meeting of the Parliament, his Grace James Duke of Queensberry, Her Majesty's High Commissioner, came to the Parliament-House, where his Grace's Commission was read, and recorded, as usual. After which Her Majesty's Letter to the Parliament was read, as follows:

A N N E R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since your last Meeting We did Nominate Commissioners to treat of an Union betwixt Our Two Kingdoms of Scotland and England, and by their great Care and Diligence a Treaty is happily concluded and laid before Us.

We have called you together as soon as Our Affairs could permit, that the Treaty may be under your Consideration, in pursuance of the Act made in the last Session of Our Parliament there; and We hope the Terms will be acceptable to you.

The Union has been long desired by both Nations, and We shall esteem it as the greatest Glory of Our Reign to have it now perfected; being fully persuaded, That it must prove the greatest Happiness of Our People.

An entire and perfect Union will be the solid Foundation of lasting Peace: It will secure your Religion, Liberty and Property; remove the Animosities amongst your selves, and the Jealousies and Differences betwixt Our Two Kingdoms: It must encrease your Strength, Riches and Trade; and by this Union the whole Island, being joined in Affection, and free from all Apprehension of different Interests, will be enabled to resist all its Enemies, support the Protestant Interest every where, and maintain the Liberties of Europe.

We do upon this Occasion renew the Assurances We have formerly given you, of Our Resolution to maintain the Government of the Church as by Law established in Scotland: And the Acts of both Parliaments upon which this Treaty proceeded, having reserved their respective Governments of the Church in each Kingdom, the Commissioners have left that Matter entire; and you have now an Opportunity for doing what may be necessary for Security of your present Church-Government, after the Union, within the Limits of Scotland.

The Support of Our Government, and your own Safety, does require that you do make necessary Provision for maintaining the Forces, Ships and Garrisons, until the Parliament of Great Britain shall provide for these Ends in the United Kingdom.

We have made Choice of Our Right Trusty and Right Entirely Beloved Cousin and Counsellor, James Duke of Queensberry, to be Our Commissioner, and Represent Our Royal Person, being well satisfied with his Fitness for that Trust, from the Experience We have of his Capacity, Zeal and Fidelity to Our Service, and the Good of his Country; which, as it has determined Us in the Choice, We doubt not but it will make him acceptable to you.

We have fully instructed him in all Things We think may fall under your Consideration, and seems to be necessary at present: Therefore We desire that you may give entire Trust and Credit to him.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It cannot but be an Encouragement to you to finish the Union at this Time, that God Almighty has blessed Our Arms, and those of Our Allies, with so great Success, which gives Us the nearer Prospect of a happy Peace, and wish it you will have the full Possession of all the Advantages of this Union; and you have no Reason to doubt but the Par-

liament of England will do what is necessary on their Part, after the Readiness they have shown to remove what might obstruct the entering on the Treaty. We most earnestly Recommend to you Calmness and Unanimity in this Great and Weighty Affair, that the Union may be brought to a happy Conclusion; being the only effectual Way to secure your present and future Happiness, and to disappoint the Designs of Our and your Enemies, who will doubtless, on this Occasion, use their utmost Endeavours to prevent or delay this Union, which must so much contribute to Our Glory, and the Happiness of Our People. And so We bid you heartily farewell.

Given at Our Court at Windsor-Castle the Thirty first Day of July, 1706. and of Our Reign the Fifth Year.

By Her Majesty's Command,

M A R.

And then his Grace the Lord High Commissioner, and the Lord Chancellor, made the following Speeches.

The Speech of his Grace James Duke of Queensberry, Her Majesty's High Commissioner to the Parliament of Scotland.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HER Majesty by Her Gracious Letter has acquainted you, That the Treaty of Union between the Kingdoms of Scotland and England (pursuant to an Act made in your last Session) has been happily agreed on, which is now in my Lord Register's Hands, ready to be laid before you.

The Lord Commissioners for this Kingdom have been diligent and zealous in concerting just and reasonable Terms; and it must be acknowledged we met with a very fair and friendly Disposition in the Lords Commissioners on the other Part.

The Treaty has with all Humility been presented to the Queen, and was most graciously received; and though no Reign was ever so truly great for wise and steady Councils, and so many important Successes, as that of Her Majesty, yet you see She is pleased to esteem the perfecting of this Union as the greatest Glory of Her Reign, being the most solid Foundation of a lasting Security to the Protestant Religion, and the Liberties of Europe, and of Peace and Happiness to Her People.

These Reasons I doubt not will make the Treaty acceptable to you; and I persuade my self, that you will proceed with such Calmness and Impartiality as the Weight of the Subject requires, and as becomes so great an Assembly.

The Lords Commissioners for both Kingdoms were limited in the Matter of Church Government, for the Security of Presbyterian Government in this Church: You have the Laws already made for its Establishment, the Queen's repeated Assurances to preserve it; and I am impowered to consent to what may be further necessary after the Union.

Her Majesty has been pleased to Recommend to you to make Provision for the Forces, Ships and Garrisons, which is very necessary; the Subsidies granted at your last Meeting being run out: So I doubt not you will speedily renew them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am not insensible of the Difficulties that attend the weighty Character it has pleased Her Majesty to honour me with; but with your favourable Assistance (upon which I very much rely) I hope, by my Zeal and Fidelity for Her Majesty's Service, and the Good of my Country, which are inseparable, to discharge my Duty in this extraordinary Occasion.

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