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From Tuesday April 7. to Saturday April 11. 1713.

At the Court at St. James's, April 7. 1713.

P R E S E N T

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

THIS Day the Right Hon. Simon Lord Harcourt, Baron of Stanton Harcourt, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of Great Britain, having by Her Majesty's Command, delivered to Her Majesty in Council, the Great Seal of Great Britain, Her Majesty was graciously pleased immediately to restore it to him again, with the Title of Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain; whereupon his Lordship took the Oaths appointed to be taken, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and also the Oath of Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain.

This Day his Grace John Duke of Athol, was, by Her Majesty's Command, Sworn One of the Lords of Her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and took his Place at the Board accordingly.

This Day the Right Hon. Peregrine Hyde, Lord Marquis of Carmarthen, took the Oaths appointed to be taken instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, his Lordship being Lord Lieutenant of the East Riding of York, and of the Town of Kingston upon Hull.

Westminster, April 9. This Day Her Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in Her Royal Robes, seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Sir William Oldes, Gentleman-Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, requiring their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Ended the last Session with my hearty Thanks for the Solemn Assurances you had given me, by which I have been enabled to overcome the Difficulties contriv'd to obstruct the General Peace.

I have deferr'd the Opening the Session until now, being desirous to Communicate to you, at your

first Meeting, the Success of this Important Affair; It is therefore with great Pleasure I tell you the Treaty is Signed, and in a few Days the Ratifications will be Exchanged.

The Negotiation has been drawn into so great a Length, that all our Allies have had sufficient Opportunity to adjust their several Interests, though the Publick Charge has been thereby much encreased; yet I hope my People will be easie under it, since We have happily obtained the End We propos'd.

What I have done for Securing the Protestant Succession, and the perfect Friendship there is between Me and the House of Hanover, may Convince such who Wish well to Both, and desire the Quiet and Safety of their Country, how vain all Attempts are to Divide Us, and those who would make a Merit by Separating Our Interests, will never attain their ill Ends.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

As great a Progress has been made in Reducing the Publick Expence, as the Circumstances of Affairs would admit.

What Force may be necessary for Securing Our Commerce by Sea, and for Guards and Garrisons, I leave entirely to My Parliament.

Make your selves Safe, and I shall be Satisfied.

Next to the Protection of the Divine Providence, I depend upon the Loyalty and Affection of my People.

I want no other Guarranty.

I recommend to your Care those Brave Men who have served well by Sea or Land this War, and cannot be Employ'd in time of Peace.

I must desire you to provide the Supplies you shall judge requisite, and to give such Dispatch as may be necessary for your own Ease and the Publick Service.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The many Advantages I have obtained for My own Subjects, have occasioned much Opposition, and long delay to this Peace.

It affords Me great Satisfaction, that My People will have it in their Power, by degrees, to repair what they have suffered during so long and burdensome a War.

The Easing Our Foreign Trade, as far as is consistent with National Credit, will deserve your Care.

And to think of proper Methods for improving and encouraging Our Home Trade and Manufactures, particularly the Fishery, which may be carry'd on to employ all our spare Hands, and be a mighty Benefit even to the remotest Parts of this Kingdom.

Several Matters were laid before you last Session, which the Weight and Multiplicity of other Busi-
nesses