

# The London Gazette.

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Westminster, March 21.

**T**HIS Day his Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his 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 his Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, and having presented the Honourable Spencer Compton, Esq; for their Speaker, whom his Majesty approved, his Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

**T**HIS being the First Opportunity that I have had of Meeting My People in Parliament, since it pleased Almighty God, of His good Providence, to Call Me to the Throne of my Ancestors, I most gladly make use of it to Thank My Faithful and Loving Subjects for that Zeal and Firmness that hath been shown in Defence of the Protestant Succession, against all the Open and Secret Practices that have been used to Defeat it; And I shall never Forget the Obligations I have to those who have Distinguished themselves upon this Occasion

It were to be wish'd, that the Unparall'd Successes of a War, which was so wisely and cheerfully Supported by this Nation, in order to Procure a good Peace had been Attended with a suitable Conclusion; But it is with Concern I must tell you, that some Conditions, even of this Peace Essential to the Security and Trade of Great Britain, are not yet duly Executed, and the Performanc: of the Whole, may be look'd upon as Precarious, until we shall have form'd Defensive Alliances to Guarrantie the present Treaties.

The Pretender, who still Resides in Lortain, Threatens to Disturb Us, and Boasts of the Assistance which he still expects here to Repair his former Disappointments.

A great Part of our Trade is render'd Impracticable; This, if not Retrieved, must Destroy Our Manufactures, and Ruin Our Navigation.

The Publick Debts are very Great, and Surprizingly Encreas'd, even since the Fatal Cessation of Arms. My first Care was to prevent a farther Encrease of these Debts, by Paying off forthwith a great Number of Ships, which had been kept in Pay, when there was no Occasion for Continuing such an Expence.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I Rely upon you for such Supplies as the present Circumstances of Our Affairs require for this Year's Service, and

for the Support of the Publick Faith; the Estimates shall be laid before you, that you may Consider of them, and what you shall judge Necessary for your Safety, I shall think Sufficient for Mine.

I doubt not but you will Concur with Me in Opinion, that nothing can Contribute more to the Support of the Credit of the Nation, than a strict Observance of all Parliamentary Engagements.

The Branches of the Revenue, formerly Granted for the Support of the Civil Government, are so far Incumbred and Alienated that the Produce of the Funds which remain, and have been Granted to Me, will fall much short of what was at first designed for Maintaining the Honour and Dignity of the Crown; and since it is My Happiness (as I am confident you think it yours) to see a Prince of Wales, who may in due time Succeed Me on the Throne, and to see Him Blessed with many Children, the best and most valuable Pledges of Our Care and Concern for Your Prosperity, this must Occasion an Expence to which the Nation has not of many Years been accustomed; but such as surely no Man will grudge: And therefore I do not doubt but you will think of it with that Affection which I have Reason to hope for from you.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The Eyes of all Europe are upon you, waiting the Issue of this First Session. Let no Unhappy Divisions of Parties here at Home, Divert you from Pursuing the Common Interest of your Country. Let no Wicked Insinuations Disquiet the Minds of My Subjects. The Established Constitution in Church and State shall be the Rule of My Government; The Happiness, Ease, and Prosperity of My People, shall be the chief Care of My Life. Those who Assist Me in Carrying on these Measures, I shall always Esteem My best Friends, and I doubt not but that I shall be Able, with your Assistance to Disappoint the Designs of those who would Deprive Me of that Blessing which I most Value, the Affection of My People.

Venice, March 8. Three Men of War, with several Gallies and Transports, having on board 200000 Ducats, 2000 Men, and Stores of Ammunition and Provisions, are ready to put to Sea for the Morea, but are detained by contrary Winds: A new Man of War carrying 70 Guns is launched, and another Convoy is providing to follow this. The Pope has promised to buy 4 Ships of War in France, to add to them 3 Gallies of his own, and to put them into the Service of this Republick against the Turks; but this State must Arm and Man them at its own Expence. The Earl of Peterborough is here at present: The Earl of Burlington set out the 5th Instant for France, in his Way to England. 'Tis advised from Rome, that on the 20th of last Month a

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