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From Tuesday December 17. to Saturday December 21. 1717.

Madrid, December 6.

THE King has not yet appeared abroad, but receives the Visits of the Nobility in the Palace, and has admitted the Duke of Escalona Mayordomo Major to kiss his Hand, upon being recalled from his Banishment. A Form of Government, agreeable to the Laws of Castile, is newly settled for the Island of Sardinia, which was formerly govern'd by the Laws of Arragon. Mr. Bubb, late Envoy of his Britannick Majesty at this Court, will set out to Morrow on his Return to England.

Berne, Dec. 15. The Baron de la Tour, Chief Minister to the Abbot of St. Gall, has written hither again since the Death of his Master, to acquaint this State, that he believ'd this Accident would be no Hindrance to the opening of the Conference fix'd for the 6th of January, and that the Chapter would proceed to the Election of another Abbot before Christmas. It is suppos'd the Choice will fall upon one of the Members of the Chapter, and one Rodolphi, a Man of Learning and Temper, is talk'd of as the most likely to be chosen. The Deputies of this Canton who went lately to Arau to confer with those of Zurich, in order to settle Matters for a Conference with the Commissioners of the Abbot of St. Gall, are returned hither, and have since given an Account of their Negotiation to the Sovereign Council here: We are informed that at the said Meeting at Arau, the Deputies of this Canton exhorted those of Zurich to think of an Accommodation at this Juncture, which had so favourable an Appearance for them, intimating that this Canton of Berne was truly dispos'd to contribute to it upon reasonable Conditions. It is said the Deputies of Zurich grew moderate upon this Intimation, and though they seem'd to insist positively upon certain Points, it is thought they will prove more plyant in the Course of the Negotiation. Thus it is hop'd this troublesome Affair will be made up at last, and that the Death of the Abbot will rather facilitate than hinder an Accommodation; the rather because there is Ground to believe, that the Emperour will not any way obstruct it.

Paris, Dec. 25. On the 15th of this Month the States of Britany assembled. The Marshal de Montelquiou, who commands the Troops there, made a Speech, importing, that the King being informed that Province was not in a Condition to make the usual Free Gift of three Millions, which it had hitherto advanced to him yearly, would not require more now than two Millions. This Speech being taken into Deliberation, the Clergy voted unanimously for the Supply, but the Nobility oppos'd it with great Warmth, and of 700 who were present, all but a few Gentlemen voted against it. The Duke de la Tremouille, who presid'd, us'd great Endeavours to prevail with them to comply, but in vain. The Marshal de Montelquiou seeing them in such a Disposition, prorogued the Sessions to the 18th:

But the same Ferment appearing again among them on that Day, the Marshal told them he had Orders to dismiss the Assembly. 'Tis said the third Estate seem'd inclin'd to vote as the Clergy had done: And that the Opposition made by the Nobility, proceeded from their Resentment of the Indignity with which they pretend some of their Body were treated, who last Summer were imprison'd in the Bastile and at Vincennes, for subscribing a Protestation against the deciding of the Dispute then on foot between the lawful and legitimated Princes of the Blood, otherwise than by a general Assembly of the States of the Kingdom. The Troops which are in Berry, Poitou, and Lower Normandy, are ordered to march into Britany. The Earl of Stair, who has been lately indispos'd, is now much better.

St. James's, December 20.

The following Address having been transmitted by his Grace the Duke of Bolton, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, has been presented to His Majesty.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty. The humble Address of the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeses in Parliament assembled.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Commons of Ire and in Parliament assembled, being deeply sensible of your Majesty's Care of the Welfare of your faithful Subjects of this your Kingdom, and of the Security they enjoy in all their Sacred and Civil Rights under your gracious Protection, do with great Humility approach your Royal Throne to represent to your Majesty the fatal Consequences which will inevitably follow from the Reversal of any of the Outlawries of the rebellious Irish Papists.

We beg Leave to lay before your Majesty, that the greatest Part of the Titles which your British and Protestant Subjects of Ireland have to their Estates, are derived under the Attainders for the Rebellion in 1641, and 1688; and as the Irish by the forfeiture of their Estates became less able to put in Execution their treasonable Designs, so by corrupting the Blood of their Nobility, and depriving them and their Posterity of their hereditary Titles and Honours, by force of the Outlawries for High Treason, they have had less Power and Credit with their Followers to lead them into Rebellion. And this was so well understood, that no Outlawry of any Person guilty of the Rebellion in 1641, was reversed until the Time of the Government of the late Earl of Tyrconel about the Year 1687, when the Design to extirpate the British and Protestant Interest, and to establish Popery as the National Religion, was openly and avowedly declared.

We do with the greatest Gratitude acknowledge, that since your Majesty's auspicious Reign no Outlawry for either of the Rebellions of 1641, or 1688, has been reversed; but a very bold and dangerous Attempt having been lately made by Henry Power, Son of John Power, commonly called Lord Power, as we conceive,