

The London Gazette

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday December 16. to Saturday December 20. 1718.

Whitehall, December 17.

His Majesty's

DECLARATION

Of War against the King of Spain

GEORGE, R.

THIS Day the Officers of Arms, being assembled at the Great Gate of the Palace of St. James's, apparelled in their Tabarts, and mounted on Horseback, made Proclamation of His Majesty's Declaration of War against Spain, with all the Solemnities customary on the like Occasion; whence the March to Temple-Bar was in the following manner. Guards to clear the Way; Constables and Beadles, bare-headed, with Staves; High Constable; Officers of the High Bailiff of Westminster; High Bailiff; a Party of Horse Guards; Knight-Marshal's Men; the King's Trumpets; Serjeant Trumpeter bearing his Mace; Pursuivants and Heralds, two and two; Norroy King of Arms, having on each side a Serjeant at Arms with Maces; Garter Principal King at Arms, in the middle between two Serjeants at Arms; a Party of the Horse Guards led by the Duke of Mountague; and being received within Temple-Bar by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Sheriffs of London, the Proclamation was made a second time over against Chancery-lane end; after which the March was continued to the Place where the Cross formerly stood in Cheap-side, where the Proclamation was made the third time, and lastly at the Royal-Exchange in Change time; the Spectators expressing their Satisfaction by loud Shouts at each Place.

WHereas we being engaged by divers Treaties to maintain the Neutrality of Italy, and to defend our good Brother the Emperour of Germany in the Possession of the Kingdoms, Provinces, and Rights, which he enjoyed in Europe; and being likewise very desirous to settle the Peace and Tranquility of Christendom upon the most just and lasting Foundations we are able, did for that Purpose, from time to time, communicate our peaceful Thoughts and Designs to the King of Spain by his Ministers, and conceived Hopes, that they would have had his Approbation. And whereas upon the said King of Spain's invading, in a hostile and unjust Manner, the Island and Kingdom of Sardinia, we did cause the most friendly Representations to be made to him in that behalf; but finding our selves obliged to support and enforce our Instances by a Naval Strength, we did send our Fleet into the Mediterranean this last Summer; with a full and earnest Intention to make Use of its Appearance there, for setting on foot Negotiations of Peace towards reconciling the Parties engaged in War, and thereby preventing the many Calamities that must ensue therefrom. And whereas we did likewise, to testify our most sincere Inclinations to Peace, send our right trusty and right well-beloved

Cousin

[Price Three Half Pence.]