

# The London Gazette.

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Westminster, October 11.

**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 Sanderson 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 Right 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,

**I** AM concerned to find my Self obliged, at the Opening of this Parliament, to acquaint you, that a dangerous Conspiracy has been for some Time formed, and is still carrying on, against my Person and Government, in Favour of a Popish Pretender.

The Discoveries I have made here, the Informations I have received from my Ministers Abroad, and the Intelligences I have had from the Powers in Alliance with me, and indeed from most Parts of Europe, have given me most ample and concurrent Proofs of this wicked Design.

The Conspirators have by their Emissaries made the strongest Instances for Assistance from Foreign Powers, but were disappointed in their Expectations: However, confiding in their Numbers, and not discouraged by their former ill Success, they resolved once more, upon their own Strength, to attempt the Subversion of my Government.

To this End they provided considerable Sums

of Money, engaged great Numbers of Officers from Abroad, secured large Quantities of Arms and Ammunition, and thought themselves in such Readiness, that had not the Conspiracy been timely discovered, we should, without doubt, before now, have seen the whole Nation, and particularly the City of London, involved in Blood and Confusion.

The Care I have taken has, by the Blessing of God, hitherto prevented the Execution of their Traiterous Projects; the Troops have been encamped all this Summer; six Regiments (though very necessary for the Security of that Kingdom) have been brought over from Ireland; the States General have given me Assurances, that they would keep a considerable Body of Forces in a Readiness to embark on the first Notice of their being wanted here, which was all I desired of them, being determined not to put my People to any more Expence, than what was absolutely necessary for their Peace and Security.

Some of the Conspirators have been taken up and secured; and Endeavours are used for the Apprehending others.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Having thus in general laid before you the State of the present Conspiracy, I must leave to your Consideration what is proper and necessary to be done for the Quiet and Safety of the Kingdom. I cannot but believe the Hopes and Expectations of our Enemies are very ill grounded, in flattering themselves, that the late Discontents, occasioned by private Losses and Misfortunes, however industriously and maliciously fomented, are turned into Disaffection and a Spirit of Rebellion.

Had I, since my Accession to the Throne, ever attempted any Innovation in our Established Religion; Had I in any one Instance invaded the Liberty

[Price Three Half Pence.]