

# The London Gazette.

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Whitehall, May 20.

**O**N the 9th Instant the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met at Edinburgh, and chose for their Moderator Mr. James Smith. His Majesty's Commission to the Right Honourable Charles Earl of Hoptoun was read, as was likewise His Majesty's most Gracious Letter to the Assembly. His Majesty's High Commissioner made a Speech to the Assembly, which was answered on their Part by the Moderator; and a Committee being appointed, drew up the following dutiful Answer to His Majesty's most gracious Letter.

*May it please your Majesty,*

**W**E humbly beg Leave to acknowledge with the greatest Thankfulness, the Honour of your Majesty's most gracious Letter to us, which is the more obliging, that your Majesty is pleased in your great Goodness, to take Notice of the Loyalty and good Affection of former Assemblies; and to give your Royal Countenance to our Meeting at this Time: We should be altogether unworthy of your Majesty's Royal Favour, if we did not endeavour the same prudent and dutiful Behaviour in this, which your Majesty does observe to have been constantly manifested in our preceeding Assemblies.

It is Matter of great Joy to us, that your Majesty is pleased graciously to renew your repeated Assurances, that you will promote the Interest, and inviolably maintain the Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland, as it is by Law established.

We esteem it our great Happiness, that we have a Sovereign upon the Throne, who uses his earnest Endeavours towards the promoting of true Religion, and the discouraging Vice and Immorality, and should be very much wanting to the Duty of our Stations, if we did not heartily concur therewith: And in order to the obtaining these desirable Ends, we hope, we shall through the Divine Assistance, conduct ourselves with that Spirit of Meekness and Unanimity, which becomes such an Assembly.

The known Concern of the Earl of Hoptoun for this Church, as well as his Zeal for your Majesty's Interest and Service, makes your Choice of him, to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly, most acceptable to us; and we cannot but look upon it, as a new Instance of your Majesty's Royal Favour to this Church.

While with the greatest Joy and Thankfulness, we reflect upon the remarkable Goodness of God, in preserving your Majesty from the late wicked and detestable Conspiracy against your Person and Government; we earnestly Pray, that the same gracious God may long preserve your sacred Majesty, to reign a happy Prince over an obedient and dutiful People: May He make you more and more the Guardian of the Protestant Interest in Europe; may He ever preserve your Royal Person from the secret Craft and open Vio-

lence of your Enemies; may He eminently bless their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and their Royal Issue; and after He has long honoured your Majesty to serve him upon Earth, may you be crowned with a Crown of Glory that fadeth not away; and may there never be wanting to these Nations, a Successour of your Royal Line, who may inherit your Throne with your Royal Virtues. These are, and shall be the fervent Prayers of,

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Presence, in our Name, and at our Appointment, by

*James Smith, Moderator.*

The following humble Address of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, having been transmitted by the High Commissioner to his Grace the Duke of Roxburghe one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has by him been presented to His Majesty.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

*May it please your Majesty,*

**T**HE grateful Sense of the Goodness of God in blessing us with such a gracious Sovereign, and the Duty and Loyalty toward your Majesty, which so justly fill our Hearts, oblige us to shew the deepest Concern for every thing that affects the Safety of your Majesty's Person and Government: And therefore, though with the greatest Satisfaction, we do understand, that the Commission of the late General Assembly did, according to their Duty, present an humble Address to your Majesty upon Occasion of the happy Discovery of the late horrid Conspiracy, which Address we heartily approve, as expressing the most sincere Thoughts of our Minds; yet we cannot omit laying hold of this first Opportunity of our meeting in a General Assembly, to declare, in the most publick and solemn manner, our utmost Detestation of that most wicked and execrable Design, and to express our great Joy, that it hath pleased God to assist your Majesty in making a seasonable Discovery thereof.

A Design so bloody and detestable in it self, and so pernicious and fatal in its Consequences, raises in our Hearts the greatest Horror and Indignation. We have for a long Time observed with Astonishment the restless and impudent Malice of your Enemies, endeavouring to misrepresent your Majesty's just and gracious Administration, in order to diffuse their own Disaffection to your Person and Government into the Minds of others of your Majesty's unwary, though well-meaning Subjects. With this View have they charged upon your Reign these Evils to which none

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but themselves gave Rise; they have set forth the most innocent, necessary and prudent Steps of your Administration in the falsest and blackest Colours, and have even denied and ridiculed your Royal Goodness and Mercy, to which Multitudes of themselves, and of their nearest Relations, owe their very Lives and Fortunes; so monstrous is their Disingenuity and Ingratitude, and such is their unaccountable Fondness to have your Kingdoms again intrahled under all the Miseries of Popery and Arbitrary Power.

Your Enemies are abundantly sensible, that there is no accomplishing this their most wicked Desire, so long as the Throne is filled by a Prince so wise and steady in all his Measures, and so powerful a Protector and Guardian of the Protestant Religion, and the Liberties of His People, as your most Sacred Majesty. But how shall we express Amazement and just Indignation, that any of your Majesty's Subjects, especially such as call themselves Protestants, should have contrived to destroy your Majesty's Sacred Person, and your Royal Family, and to cut off many of your best Servants and Subjects, by the complicated Wickednesses of Perjury, Murder and Parricide, in order to set a Popish Pretender upon your Throne. This we look on as striking at the Root of the Religion and Liberties of a Protestant and Free People, and of all that is valuable and dear to us, both as Men and Christians, and as a horrible Evidence to what barbarous Wickedness an incurable Malice can drive Men of abandoned Spirits.

Had God, for the Sins of your Kingdoms, permitted this hateful Conspiracy to take Effect, it must have been attended with such a dismal Train of fatal Consequences as makes our Hearts to tremble. And therefore, while with Hearts full of Joy and Thankfulness, we adore the Wisdom and Goodness of our Gracious God, in discovering and disappointing such an execrable Design, permit us, Great Sir, with the greatest Loyalty and most dutiful Affection, to congratulate your Majesty upon the Success of your prudent and watchful Administration in this Matter.

The Opening up so much of this deep laid Plot, and Tracing it through so many of its various Mazes and Windings, the Stripping it of these Veils of Darkness, which were so industriously spread over it by Men of the most artful Cunning, and the Deliverance thereby wrought for your Majesty's Sacred Person, and your Royal Family, and also for the dearest Privileges of all your faithful Subjects, and of this Church in particular, will, we hope, be remembered by latest Posterity, to the Honour of God, and as one of the Glories of your Majesty's most auspicious Reign.

We humbly presume, upon this Occasion, to assure your Majesty of the Continuance of our Loyalty and Affection, and of all that Duty and Fidelity which is owing from the most faithful Subjects to the best of Kings; and that we will use our utmost Endeavours to instill into the People among whom we have Charge, the same Sentiments of Duty and Loyalty to your Majesty's Person and Government, and the same Zeal for the Protestant Succession in your Royal Family, which we ourselves esteem it our great Happiness to entertain.

May the same wise and merciful God who brought you so seasonably to the Throne, and who hath hitherto so graciously preserved your Sacred Majesty, continue his watchful Care over you. May he lay open to the very Bottom, and effectually disappoint, all the dark and malicious Designs of your Enemies, and turn their Counsels into Foolishness. May the Crown wherewith he hath adorned your Royal Head, sit long and easy, and flourishing upon it: And may all your Subjects be made sensible of the valuable Blessings which they enjoy under your happy Government. May he eminently bless their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and their Offspring; and make them the happy Instruments of much Good to the World, and to the Church in their Day. May Protestant Sovereigns of your Royal Line, allwise inherit your Crown, and these illustrious Qualities with which your Majesty does now adorn it. May you be long honoured to do eminent Service

to God on Earth, and at length enjoy a great Reward in Heaven. So pray,

May it please your Majesty,  
Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient and most loyal Subjects,  
The Ministers and Elders of this National Assembly.

Signed in our Presence, in our Name,  
and at our Appointment, by

*Edinb. May* *Jamas Smyth, Moderator.*  
Which Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

*Stockholm, May 1, O. S.* At Nine a-Clock this Morning a most terrible Fire broke out in the Southern Quarter of this City, which has already consumed near 500 Houses, and still rages with great Violence. Colonel Basswitz's House is burnt to the Ground, and Mr. Resident Jackson's is at this Instant in great Danger. One of the finest Churches in the Town is destroyed. The Magazine for Pitch and Tar and Cordage for the Swedish Fleet, together with several Warehouses in which the Merchants kept their Goods, are now burning. Some of the English Merchants are great Losers by this unhappy Accident. The Fire began in a Windmill, and the Wind being very high it was soon carried to some wooden Buildings which were near, and for Want of Engines and Instruments useful on such Occasions near a third Part of the Town is destroyed. It is thought the Damage already done cannot amount to less than two Millions of Crowns Loss to Sweden. His Swedish Majesty has been all the Day on Horseback to give necessary Orders, but as yet the whole Town is in the greatest Confusion. The King of Sweden has been graciously pleased to forgive Count Freytag for what passed last Year, and has told him that he is willing he should stay here as Minister, if the Emperour his Master approves of it. The Affair of the Title of Emperour for the Czar, and that of Royal Highness for the Duke of Holstein, has been before the Senate, but as yet no Resolution is taken upon either of those two Points.

*Stockholm, May 2, O. S.* The Post having been kept back by the King's Order till this Morning, we have now the Satisfaction to add, that the Fire is every where extinguished, tho' the Damage is much increased since our Letters went last Night to the Post-Office. Mr. Jackson's House is safe.

#### Advertisements

**T**HIS is to give Notice, that Robert Ham, of Tatfiston, in Sufflk, Farmer and Malster, is lately dead, and left an Estate to his Son Robert Ham, who is hereby desired to return to Tatfiston and take Possession of the said Estate.

**W**HEREAS a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Thomas Haynes, of Baffledon, in the County of Berks; Malster, and he being declared a Bankrupt; is hereby required to surrender himself to the Commissioners on the 31st Instant, and on the 8th and 20th of June next, at Nine in the Forenoon, at the Council Chamber in the Guildhall in Reading in the County of Berks; at the second of which Sitings the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, pay Contribution Money, and chuse Assignees. And all Persons indebted to the said Bankrupt, or that have any Goods or Effects of his in their Hands, are forthwith to give Notice thereof to Mr. Samuel Wheate, Attorney, in Reading aforesaid.

**T**HIS Commission is a Commission of Bankrupt awarded and issued against Jonathan James, late of London, Merchant, (pursuant to an Order of the Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain) intend to meet on the 13th of June next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London, in order to make a second Dividend of the said Bankrupt's Estate; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, and paid their Contribution-Money, are then to come prepared to do the same, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the said Dividend.

**W**HEREAS Henry Scott, of Southwark, in the County of Surrey, Linen-Draper, hath surrendered himself (pursuant to Notice) and finished his Examination; This is to give Notice that the Commissioners will meet on the 30th Instant, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London when and where the Creditors may come and prove their Debts, pay Contribution-Money, and assent to or dissent from the Allowance of his Certificate.