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Whitehall, May 20.

ON 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,

WE 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,

THE 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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