

And yet it is with Pleasure I reflect, that the Justice of Parliament has been so temper'd with Mercy, that even those, who are resolv'd to be dissatisfied, must acknowledge the Lenity of your Proceedings, and will be at a Loss for any Pretence to complain, so few Examples having been made, and the Penalties, inflict'd by Bill, falling so much short of the Punishments due for the same Crimes by the common Course of Law.

The Firmness you have shewn, must convince all the World, how much they were mistaken, whose chief Hopes were founded on the Disaffection of my People. It gave me great Satisfaction to see as general a Concurrence in full Parliament upon this Occasion, as has been ever known on any former; and it is to be hop'd, our Enemies will cease to flatter themselves with the vain Imagination of being able to subvert our Religion and present Establishment.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must acknowledge, in a particular Manner, the great Readiness you have shewn in raising the necessary Supplies for the ensuing Year: It is an unexpected Felicity, that you have been able so far to disappoint the Hopes of our Enemies, as to avoid laying any new Burthen upon my People, and that, so soon after that great Shock and Convulsion in all the publick Funds, and in the midst of intestine Alarms and Disturbances, the Credit of the Nation should so far revive and flourish, that not only the Supplies of the Year should be rais'd at a much lower Interest than was ever known in the most quiet Times, but Part of the National Debt should be reduced from an Interest of Five to Three per Cent. and put in a Course of being soon discharged.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I return you My most sincere Thanks for the Indefatigable Pains you have taken in the Service of the Publick: I earnestly recommend it to you, in your several Stations and Countries, to persevere in your Endeavours for performing the Peace of the Kingdom; by Justice and Resolution, to subdue the restless Spirit of Faction and Sedition; and by Prudence and Temper, to reconcile the misled.

Some Extraordinary Affairs calling Me Abroad this Summer, I doubt not but that the Wisdom and Vigilance of My good Subjects will prevent Our Enemies from taking any Advantage of My Absence. To gain the Hearts and Affections of My People, shall always be My first and principal Care; on their Duty and Loyalty I will entirely Depend: They may as surely depend on My Protection in the full Enjoyment of their Religion, Liberty, and Property.

And then the Lord Chancellour by His Majesty's Command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is His Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday the Second Day of July next, to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday the Second Day of July next.

Stockholm, May 8, 6. S. On Monday last the Secret Committee caused several Persons of Quality to be arrested. These State Prisoners were all seized much about the same Time, and carried to one House, where they remain under a very strict Guard. Of that Number is M. Orthof Privy Commissary of his Majesty's Court, M. Daleen Chief Director of the States Comptoir, M. Prang Captain of Horse, M. Schening Secretary to the States Deputation: There are likewise some who are confined to their own Houses: But it is not yet known for what Reason. The same Evening several Officers were dispatch'd into the Country, in order to seize some Persons there. Yesterday 12 Persons, were taken into Custody here. No exact Calculation has yet been made of the Damage sustained by the Fire: Some compute it at near 500000 Crowns, and that about 3000 Houses, great and small, have been burnt. Several Persons have been taken up, on Suspicion of having set Fire to the Windmill where it began; but the Woman of the Mill has depose'd upon Oath before a Magistrate, that she left in it a lighted Candle, which Neglect was the Occasion of all this Misfortune.

Whitehall, May 28.

His Majesty has been pleas'd to appoint the Right Honourable Robert Walpole, Esq; Chancellour of the Exchequer, to be one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State during His Majesty's Absence.

The Right Honourable William Pulteney, Esq; to be Cofferet to His Majesty's Household.

The Right Honourable Philip Lord Stanhope to be Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard of His Majesty's Body.

The Honourable Robert Herbert, Esq; to be one of the Grooms of His Majesty's Bed-Chamber.

The Honourable George Berkeley, Esq; to be Master Keeper and Governour of the Hospital or free Chapel of St. Catherine near the Tower.

Trustees