

The London Gazette.

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St. James's, February 20.

THE Sovereign having determined to hold a Chapter of the most Noble Order of the Garter, and the Knights Companions resident in and near London, being summoned to attend here this Day, there appeared habited in their Mantles the Knights herein after mentioned, with Garter King of Arms, and the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, in their respective Mantles, and wearing their different Badges, who waited the Sovereign's coming; and upon his Appearance, Garter by the Sovereign's Command called over the Names of the Knights Companions present, beginning with the Juniors in the Order, who thereon proceeded from the Apartment next to his Majesty's Closet, to the Council-chamber (where the Chapter was held) in the following Method, where the Juniors went first, and the Knights whose Companions in the Stalls opposite to them were absent, went single.

Earl of Wilmington,
 Sir Robert Walpole,
 Earl of Scarbrough,
 Duke of Rutland,
 Duke of Grafton,
 Duke of Newcastle,
 Duke of Dorset, Duke of Montagu.
 Duke of Argyll,
 Duke of Cumberland.

Garter King of Arms, having on his Left Hand the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

THE SOVEREIGN.

Upon entering the Council-chamber, the Knights stood behind their several Chairs (placed there as at the Time of holding of the Privy Council) till the Sovereign had seated himself in the Chair of State at the upper End of the Table, and then by his Majesty's Leave took their Chairs. Then Garter with Reverence acquainted the Sovereign, that the Bishop of Winchester attended at the Door, and humbly beseeched his Majesty to be admitted to take the Oath of Prelate enjoyed by the

Statutes. Then the Bishop, in his Episcopal Habit, by the Sovereign's Command, was introduc'd between Garter and the Black Rod, Garter carrying his Mantle and Badge; and being come to the Sovereign, Garter invested him with the Mantle, and the Oath of Office being administered to him kneeling, Garter on his Knee presented to his Majesty his Lordship's Badge, which the Sovereign put round his Neck. Then the Prelate with Reverence acquainted the Sovereign, that the Bishop of Salisbury attended at the Door, who being introduced, took the Oath of Chancellor in the like Manner. Then the Chancellor, by the Sovereign's Command, declared his Royal Pleasure, that one of the vacant Stalls at Windsor should be filled; and each Knight Companion having wrote down the Names of nine Persons, that is of three Earls, or those of an higher Degree, three Barons, and three Knights whom they esteemed qualified to be elected, and having severally subscribed their Hands, and the same being collected by the Chancellor, and presented by him on his Knee to the Sovereign, who after inspecting them, commanded the Chancellor to declare William Earl of Essex duly elected. Upon which, Garter accompanied with the Black Rod, was sent to introduce his Lordship, who being brought to the Door of this Chapter Room, was there received at the Entrance by the Earl of Wilmington and Sir Robert Walpole the Junior Knights, and conducted by them to the Sovereign with the accustomed Reverences, Garter King of Arms carrying the Garter, the Ensign of the Order, and a Gold George hanging to a blue Ribbon, did upon his Knee present the Garter to the Sovereign, who delivered it to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland and the Duke of Argyll, the two Senior Companions, which they buckled about the Left Leg of his Lordship, while the Chancellor read the Admonition enjoyned by the Statutes; and then Garter having with like Reverence presented to the Sovereign the Blue Ribbond with the Gold George pendant thereto, his Majesty, assisted by his Royal Highness

(Price Two Pence.)