

# The London Gazette.

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*Westminster, November 15.*

**H**IS Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes, seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Sir Charles Dalton, 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, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

**T**HE present Posture of our Affairs has obliged Me to call you together, at this Time, sooner than has been usual of late Years, that I may have the immediate Advice and Assistance of my Parliament at this critical and important Conjunction. I have, in all my Proceedings with the Court of Spain, acted agreeably to the Sense of both Houses of Parliament; and therefore I can make no Doubt, but I shall meet with a ready and vigorous Support in this just and necessary War, which the repeated Injuries, and Violences committed by that Nation upon the Navigation and Commerce of these Kingdoms, and their Obstinacy, and notorious Violation of the most solemn Engagements, have rendered unavoidable.

I have augmented my Forces by Sea and Land, pursuant to the Power given me by Parliament; which I have done with all the Moderation, that the Security and Defence of my Dominions, the Protection of our Trade, and the necessary Means of distressing and annoying our Enemies in the most sensible Parts, would admit: But as these Services will be various and extensive, they must inevitably be attended with great Expences, and some Inconveniencies; which, I assure myself, will be sustained with Satisfaction and Cheerfulness, in pursuing such Measures, as the Honour and Interest of my Crown and Kingdoms, and the general Relentment of an injured and provoked Nation, have called upon Me to undertake.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

I have ordered the proper Officers to lay before you Estimates for the Service of the ensuing Year, and likewise Accounts of the extraordinary Expences that have been made this Year, in pursuance of the Power given Me by Parliament. And as in the Prosecution of this War, a Number of Soldiers, to serve on board the Fleet, may be requisite; I have judged it proper, that a Body of Marines should be raised, and have directed the Estimates for this Purpose to be likewise prepared, and laid before you: And I cannot doubt, from your known Affection to my Person and Government, and your Zeal for the Safety, Prosperity, and Glory of these Kingdoms, but you will grant me such effectual Supplies, and with such Dispatch, as may forward, and give Spirit to our Preparations, and enable Me to carry on the War with Vigour.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

The Heats and Animosities, which, with the greatest Industry, have been fomented throughout the Kingdom, have, I am afraid, been one of the chief Encouragements to the Court of Spain, to hold such a Conduct towards us, as to make it necessary to have Recourse to Arms; and the unhappy Divisions amongst my Subjects, are the only Hopes of the Enemies to my Government: But whatever Views and Projects they may form upon this Rupture, and what Advantages soever Spain may vainly promise itself from any Circumstances in the present Situation of Affairs; it is in your Power, by the Blessing of God, to defeat the one, and disappoint the other. Union among all those, who have Nothing at Heart but the true Interest of Great Britain, and a becoming Zeal in the Defence of my Kingdoms, and in the Support of the common Cause of our Country, with as general a Concurrence in carrying on the War, as there has appeared for engaging in it, will make the Court of Spain repent the Wrongs they have done us; and convince those, who mean the Subversion of the present Establishment, that this Nation is determined, and able, both to vindicate their injured Honour, and to defend themselves against all our open and secret Enemies, both at Home and Abroad.

