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His Swedish Majesty's Answer, dated the 27th of April 1742, to the Czarina's Manifesto of the 18th of March 1742.

HIS Majesty has very unexpectedly been informed, that since the End of the Cessation of Arms between his Troops and those of Russia, a Manifesto in the Czarina's Name, dated at Moscow the 18th of March last, printed in the Swedish, Finlandish, and German Language, has been dispersed abroad with a dangerous Design of seducing his faithful and devoted Subjects of the Great Dutchy of Finland from that Zeal and Loyalty which they have shewn for Time immemorial towards the King and Kingdom, and under the vain and imaginary Hopes of a free and independent Government, of infecting them with a black and detestable Treason.

There is nothing of which his Majesty can be more assured and convinced, than of the sincere and unshaken Zeal with which all his Subjects, especially those of the said Dutchy, are attached to the Interests of his Royal Person and Kingdom, and of their Hatred and Aversion to all those who would set the least Blot upon their Honour, their Oaths of Allegiance, and their Consciences.

So that his Majesty has no Occasion to exhort his said Subjects not to give the least Attention to such false Suggestions of the Enemy, as have no other View but to break the Union, the Effects of which they so justly dread at present.

All the World too sees clearly upon what a slight and treacherous Foundation the deceitful Promises made on the Part of Russia are built, and that to give Credit to them would be falling into a Snare and plunging themselves in Ruin.

The Government of Russia has formerly in the same Manner stirred up Troubles and Seditious in different Parts of its Neighbourhood, by giving flattering Hopes of a free and independent Government. But those Provinces saw themselves greatly deceived, as soon as they felt the Muscovite Yoke laid upon them, and themselves reduced to submit to the Servitude and Slavery of that Government. Witness Great Novogrod and the Ukraine, which still groan under their Chains, with little Hopes to this Moment of being delivered from them.

His Majesty having made a Deposit of his Power in the Hearts of his Subjects, only permits them with all Royal Grace and Clemency to enjoy the Sweets of their Liberty, and of the Form of Government which they themselves have chosen and desired. Their Prosperity is dearer to his Majesty than any Thing in the World, and he has nothing so much at Heart as to see them safe and secure from all the Insults of their Enemies.

And therefore they themselves certainly cannot but look with Horror and Disdain upon an Exchange of Liberty for Slavery, of Security of Life and Fortune, for Fear and perpetual Danger of being sacrificed to the Humours of a vio-

lent and tyrannical Government, of which the History of all past Times has given full Proof, and of which they themselves have had daily Examples before their Eyes.

His Majesty hopes, with the Protection and Aid of the Almighty, not only to defend and protect his Great Dutchy of Finland, but also to recover the Barriers to it that have been usurped by the Enemy since the last War: And therefore the Insolence of the Russians threatening to ravage the Country, and lay all waste with Fire and Sword, will have no other Effect, but to excite and inflame the Hearts of his faithful Subjects in Finland so much the more to endeavour to quell the cruel and insolent Spirit of the Enemy, by their usual Courage and Valour: And for this End it is, and to prevent the Execution of his sanguinary Projects against the said Dutchy, that his Majesty's Armies and Fleet are going to search for the Enemy in his own Country, as soon as the Season will allow of it, though his Majesty however, in pouring his Troops into the Enemy's Country, will not suffer them to deviate from the Laws of Humanity and Christianity.

It is in this Manner, that his Majesty, resting entirely upon the Hearts of his faithful Subjects, is very sure that neither the Enemy's Artifices, nor Force, nor Promises, nor Threats, will be able to dissolve the Bond, which an entire and mutual Love and Confidence has so firmly cemented between his Majesty and them, and which his Majesty is always ready, if Occasion requires, to seal with his own Blood and the Loss of his precious Life.

His Majesty sees with Astonishment, that in the said Manifesto of Russia, it is laid down for a Truth, that the War is unjust on the Part of Sweden; that the Czarina, from the Time of her Accession to the Crown, had sufficiently shewn her Inclination for Peace in the Manner expressed in that Manifesto; and that the present War did not begin with the unanimous Consent of all the States and Subjects of Sweden. His Majesty, in his Declaration of War of the 24th of July last Year, and by the Motives thereto printed and published, has given to the whole World convincing Evidence of the Haughtiness, Injustice, and intolerable Conduct of the last Governments in Russia towards his Majesty and his Kingdom, the Reasons therein alledged are so strong and evident, that the Court of Russia itself was not able to refute them. But over and above this, his Majesty still intends to cause to be printed a circumstantial Relation of the whole, leaving all the just and equitable World to judge, whether this Conduct of Russia has not been more cruel and insupportable to Sweden, than even a declared and open War.

The present Czarina, on her Accession to the Throne, acknowledged her self immediately in express Terms in her Declaration, that the Conduct of the preceding Government had occasioned all the Disturbances both within and without Russia, and certainly the War with Sweden must be reckoned amongst the latter.