

The London Gazette.

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From *Tuesday* December 3. to *Saturday* December 7. 1745.

By the KING,

A PROCLAMATION,

For putting the Laws in Execution against Jesuits and Popish Priests, and promising a Reward for apprehending them within London, Westminster, the Borough of Southwark, or within Ten Miles of the said Cities of London and Westminster.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made in the Twenty-seventh Year of Queen Elizabeth, it is Enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any Jesuit or popish Priest, born within this Realm, or any other our Dominions, to come into, or be or remain in any Part thereof, under the Penalty of being guilty of High Treason, in Case he shall not, within three Days after he shall come into this Realm, submit himself to some Bishop of this Realm, or to some Justice of the Peace, and take the Oaths; and every Person, who shall wittingly and willingly receive or maintain such Jesuit or popish Priest, shall be guilty of Felony without Benefit of Clergy: And by the same Act it is further Enacted, That if any Subject shall know that any such Priest is within the Realm, and not discover him unto some Justice of the Peace, or other higher Officer, within twelve Days next after his said Knowledge, but willingly conceal his Knowledge therein, then every such Offender shall be fined and imprisoned at the Queen's Pleasure. And whereas it is by an Act of the third Year of King James the First, Enacted, That if any Person shall put in Practise, to absolve, persuade or withdraw any of the Subjects of his Majesty, his Heirs or Successors, from his natural Obedience to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, or to reconcile them to the Pope or See of Rome, or to move them to promise Obedience to any pretended Authority of the See of Rome, or to any other Prince, State or Potentate, then every such Person, their Procurers, Counsellors, Aiders and Maintainers, knowing the same, shall be adjudged Traytors, and suffer as such; or if any Person shall, by

any Means, be willingly withdrawn, or promise Obedience as aforesaid, such Person is thereby made guilty of High Treason. And whereas it is notorious, that great Numbers of such Jesuits and popish Priests taking Advantage of the Lenity of our Government, in not putting the said Laws, and other Laws against Papists into strict Execution, have of late come into or continued in this our Kingdom, exercising their Functions, and have perverted, or attempted to pervert, many of our Subjects from the Protestant Religion and their Allegiance: And whereas at this Time of open Rebellion in Favour of a popish Pretender to our Crown, all such Jesuits and popish Priests are more particularly dangerous to the Peace and Security of this Realm, and it is necessary that the said Laws should be put into effectual Execution against them, and more especially that they should not be suffered to come into, or remain in or near to our Cities of London or Westminster: And whereas by our Royal Proclamation given at our Court at Kensington the Fifth Day of September last, we did strictly charge and command all Papists and reputed Papists (except as therein is excepted) on or before Thursday the 19th Day of September last, to depart out of the Cities of London and Westminster, and Borough of Southwark, and from all Places within ten Miles Distance from the same: And whereas we have received Information, that notwithstanding the said Laws and Proclamation, many Jesuits and popish Priests are so daring as still to continue and reside within the Cities of London and Westminster, and Borough of Southwark, and within ten Miles of the same; We, for the better discovering and apprehending such Jesuits and popish Priests, do by this our Royal Proclamation, by and with the Advice of our Privy Council, strictly charge and command all our Judges, Justices of the Peace, Magistrates, Officers and other our loyal Subjects, that they do use their utmost Care and Endeavour to discover, apprehend, and bring to Trial, all Jesuits and popish Priests, except such popish Priests not being our natural-born Subjects, as by the Law of this our Realm are permitted to attend Foreign Ministers. And for the greater Encou-