

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday May 16, to Saturday May 20, 1749.

Whitehall, May 20.

ON the 13th Instant the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met at Edinburgh, and chose for their Moderator Mr. Patrick Cuming. His Majesty's Commission to the Right Honourable, the Earl of Leven was read, as was likewise his Majesty's most gracious Letter to the Assembly. His Majesty's High Commissioner made a Speech to the Assembly, which was answered on their Part by the Moderator, and a Committee was appointed to draw up a dutiful Answer to his Majesty's most gracious Letter, which having been transmitted by the High Commissioner to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has by him been presented to his Majesty, who was pleased to receive it very graciously.

His Majesty's High Commissioner's Speech to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Right Reverend and Right Honourable,
HIS Majesty's most gracious Letter, supersedes the Necessity of my assuring you, of the just Sense he has of your steady Zeal and firm Attachment to his Person and Government, and his constant Resolution to maintain the Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland as by Law established; and you know well, that his fatherly Concern for your Happiness, has at all Times far exceeded the warmest Expressions I could use in this Place.

His Majesty's annual Bounty for reforming the Highlands and Islands, which he has again been graciously pleased to renew,—His Royal Patent granted to the Society for propagating the Christian Knowledge,—His repeated Countenance given for establishing a Fund for the Provision of the Widows and Children of Ministers, &c.—are but a few of the many Instances, which every Member of this House

will readily recall, of his Majesty's pious Care for the good of the Nation in general, and the Prosperity of this Church in particular:—Such continued Proofs of the Royal Favour, will, I persuade myself, meet with all the dutiful Regards, which the most faithful Subjects owe to the best of Sovereigns; and it cannot fail, to heighten your respectful Sense of his Majesty's great Goodness, that he demands no other Return, but that Behaviour and Conduct, which is inseparable from your own true Interest.

By obeying the Royal Call, you will pursue such Measures as will at once—make the Nation,—the Church,—and yourselves happy.—All the important Affairs under your present Disliberation, will be managed with that Candour and Prudence,—that Temper and Moderation, which shall prove both your Glory and your Strength;—and amidst that Variety of Sentiments, which must take Place in every numerous Meeting, you will still love as Brethren,—maintaining the Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace.—This much may reasonably be expected, from the Conduct of former Assemblies, which I have so often witnessed with the greatest Pleasure, and I cannot omit observing, that the known Character of the honourable and reverend Members of this Assembly, with whom I have the Happiness to be acquainted, lays the justest Foundation for that Charity which *thinketh no Evil, but hopeth all Things.*

Your unshaken Loyalty in the worst of Times, and the noble Stand which you have so frequently and of late made, in Support of Liberty, against the lawless Abettors of Tyranny and Oppression, has endeared you to every true Lover of our happy Constitution, and intitles you to the sincerest Congratulations on Account of the general Peace, so happily concluded, by the Blessing of God on his Majesty's Arms and Councils.

Nothing remains, but to improve the Blessings of our present Tranquillity, for promoting the great Ends of Religion and Virtue, which

(Price Four-pence.)