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From Tuesday August 13, to Saturday August 17, 1751.

AT the Court at Kensington, the 9th Day of August 1751,

P R E S E N T,

The King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas his Majesty hath received Information, That from the 16th Day of June to the 1st Day of September in the last Year 1750, a very small Number of the Horned Cattle had died of the Distemper, or had been killed on that Account, in the County of Middlesex; but that from the said First Day of September to the Tenth Day of November following, no less than Nine hundred and eighteen Oxen and Cows, and Thirty-one Calves had been killed and buried by the Inspectors, within the said County; which great and sudden Increase of the said Distemper, was apprehended to have arisen from the holding two great Fairs for Horned Cattle near the Borders of the said County of Middlesex, the one in that Part of Barnet which lies in the County of Hertford, on the 24th of August, and the other at Harlow Bush in the County of Essex, on the 29th of the said Month; to which Fairs, distemper'd Cattle being brought, were there bought and sold, and dispersed all over those and the Neighbouring Counties.—And whereas his Majesty hath this Day received further Information, that from the 13th of April in the present Year, to this Time, the Distemper hath entirely ceased in the County of Middlesex, not one Ox, Bull, Cow or Calf having either died or been killed on Account thereof; but that there is great Reason to apprehend, if the afore-mentioned two Fairs should be permitted to be held this Year, the same Mischiefs may arise as in the last, the ill Consequences whereof may prove very injurious to many of his Majesty's good Subjects:—His Majesty taking the same into his most serious Consideration, and being desirous of doing every Thing in his Power to prevent the Spreading of the said Distemper, hath therefore thought fit, and doth, by this his Order in his Privy Council, declare and order, that no Fair or Fairs, Market, or Shew of Cattle, be held for the Sale of Cattle on the 24th of this Instant August, at Barnet aforesaid, or any Place adjacent; nor any Fair or Fairs, Market, or Shew of Cattle at Harlow Bush on the 29th of this Instant, or any Place adjacent thereto:—And

his Majesty doth hereby strictly forbid the sending, driving, or removing, or causing to be sent, driven or removed, any Ox, Bull, Cow, Calf, Steer or Heifer, to either of the said Fairs or Markets, or any other Fair or Market, or Shew of Cattle, in any Place adjacent:—And his Majesty's Justices of the Peace in the Counties of Hertford and Essex, near to the Place where the afore-mentioned Fairs are usually held, are hereby required to issue their Orders to the Chief Constables or Headboroughs of the Hundreds, Lathes, Rapes or Wapentakes, and to the respective Petty Constables of the respective Parishes within the same, to prevent the holding the said Fairs or Markets: And if any Person or Persons shall presume to drive, remove, or send, or cause to be driven, removed, or sent, any such Cattle to the said Fairs or Markets contrary to this Order, such Person or Persons so offending, shall be carried before some Neighbouring Justice, to be dealt with according to Law.

And his Majesty doth hereby strictly charge and command, not only the Justices of the Peace within the said Counties of Hertford and Essex, but also all the Justices of the Peace, and other Magistrates throughout the Kingdom of England, that they do take Care at this Season of the Year, when Fairs and Markets are usually held for the Sale of Cattle, to inform themselves thoroughly, whether the holding the said Fairs and Markets are likely to be attended with the Danger of Spreading the said Distemper; and if they shall apprehend them so to be, that then the said Justices do, at their General or Quarter Session, or at any Adjournment thereof, within their respective Counties, cause a Stop to be put to the holding the same, pursuant to the Powers vested in them for that Purpose, by his Majesty's Order in Council of the 22d of March 1747.

And his Majesty doth likewise hereby strictly charge and command all the said Justices of the Peace, and other Magistrates and Officers, to be careful and diligent in carrying into Execution the Rules and Regulations contained in the several Acts of Parliament and Orders of Council for putting a Stop to the Spreading of the Distemper amongst the Horned Cattle.

William Sharpe.