

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday December 3, to Saturday December 7, 1754.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,

The humble Address of the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy, of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled.

May it please your Majesty,

WE Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy, of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled, beg Leave to take this Opportunity of our being conven'd by Your Royal Command, to repeat the most cordial Assurances of our inviolable Duty and Fidelity to Your Sacred Person.

We have a strong and grateful Sense of the Happiness we have enjoy'd during the whole Course of Your Majesty's Reign: under which the Obedience of Your Subjects, and particularly of Your faithful Clergy, has, by the Goodness of Your Majesty, been render'd a most easy Duty.

Your Majesty has made the Laws and Constitution the Rule of Your just and equal Government: and is never better pleas'd, than when the same Laws appear to be the Measure of Your People's Loyalty.

The gracious Assurances, which Your Majesty has so often given, and so religiously observed, That you would support the Church of England, as by Law established, not only lay us under the highest Obligations to Your Majesty, but call upon us also to shew our Thankfulness to God for so great and powerful a Protector: and we are convinced how much it is incumbent upon us, to demonstrate to the World, by our Doctrines and Examples, That the Protestant Church of England has not its Equal, for the Purity of its Faith, the Wisdom of its Constitution, the decent Regularity of its Worship, a steady and well-grounded Zeal against the Corruptions of Popery, its Loyalty and Affection to its Governors, and Moderation and Candour to those who have the Misfortune to dissent from it.

Such is the Spirit of our Establishment: and in forming our Conduct by it, we acquit ourselves of our Duty to God, and to our Country; and render ourselves as acceptable, as we are invariably faithful, to Your Majesty, and Your illustrious House.

We see and lament the Depravity of our Times, evidenced beyond all former Examples, not only by flagitious Actions, but by the Publication of Writings which strike at the very Vitals of all Religion, and shake the Foundations of Civil Government. We engage ourselves to Your Majesty, that we will exert ourselves to the utmost to maintain the Honour of our most Holy Faith, by instilling the Principles, and urging the great Motives of it upon the Consciences of Men: by these Means doing all in our Power to preserve the Peace and Prosperity of the Publick, and strengthen the Hands of the Magistrate in the Execution of those good Laws, which have been form'd with so much Wisdom against Irreligion, Prophaneness, and Dissoluteness of Manners.

Give us Leave, Sir, to add our most ardent Prayers to God, that He would extend Your Majesty's Days to the longest Period of Human Life; That He would bless and prosper all the Branches of Your Royal Family; and that, under a Line of Princes derived from Yourself, this Nation may be as secure, in future Times, from the Mischiefs of Licentiousness, as it has been, under Your Majesty's auspicious Government, from the Danger of Oppression.

His Majesty's most Gracious Answer.

My Lords, and the rest of the Clergy,

I Thank you for this very dutiful, and affectionate Address. The Zeal you express against the Increase of Immorality, and the Publication of impious Writings, is highly commendable, and gives Me great Satisfaction.

It shall be My constant Care, to discourage Licentiousness, and Infidelity; to support the Church of England, as by Law established; and to protect all My Subjects in the full Enjoyment of their Rights, both Religious, and Civil.

Lisbon, Oct. 23. On Thursday last the Fleet from the Bay of All Saints, consisting of 18 Ships, escorted by a Man of War of 60 Guns, arriv'd at the Mouth of the Tagus. Last Week two Men of War put to Sea from this Port on a Cruize against the Corsairs of Barbary. On the 11th Instant a Fire broke out in this City, which burnt down several Houses, and some Persons perished in the Flames.

Dantzick