

In the mean Time great Naval Armaments were preparing in the Ports of France, and a considerable Body of French Troops embarked for North America; and tho' the French Ambassadour was sent back to England with specious Professions of a Desire to accommodate these Differences, yet it appeared, that their real Design was only to gain Time for the Passage of those Troops to America, which they hoped would secure the Superiority of the French Forces in those Parts, and enable them to carry their ambitious and oppressive Projects into Execution.

In these Circumstances We could not but think it incumbent upon Us to endeavour to prevent the Success of so dangerous a Design, and to oppose the Landing of the French Troops in America; and in Consequence of the just and necessary Measures We had taken for that Purpose, the French Ambassadour was immediately recalled from Our Court; the Fortifications at Dunkirk, which had been repairing for some Time, were enlarged; great Bodies of Troops marched down to the Coast, and Our Kingdoms were threatened with an Invasion.

In order to prevent the Execution of these Designs, and to provide for the Security of Our Kingdoms, which were thus threatened, We could no longer forbear giving Orders for the Seizing at Sea the Ships of the French King, and his Subjects: Notwithstanding which, as We were still unwilling to give up all Hopes that an Accommodation might be effected, We have contented Ourselves hitherto with detaining the said Ships, and preserving them, and (as far as was possible) their Cargoes entire, without proceeding to the Confiscation of them: But it being now evident, by the hostile Invasion actually made by the French King, of Our Island of Minorca, that it is the determined Resolution of that Court, to hearken to no Terms of Peace, but to carry on the War, which has been long begun on their Part, with the utmost Violence, We can no longer remain, consistently with what We owe to Our own Honour, and to the Welfare of Our Subjects within those Bounds, which, from a Desire of Peace, We had hitherto observed.

We have therefore thought proper to Declare War, and We do hereby Declare War, against the French King, who hath so unjustly begun it, relying on the Help of Almighty God in Our just Undertaking, and being assured of the hearty Concurrence and Assistance of Our Subjects in Support of so good a Cause; hereby Willing and Requiring Our Captain General of Our Forces, Our Commissioners for executing the Office of Our High Admiral of Great Britain, Our Lieutenants of Our several Counties, Governors of Our Forts and Garrisons, and all other Officers and Soldiers under them, by Sea and Land, to do and execute all Acts of Hostility, in the Prosecution of this War, against the French King, his Vassals, and Subjects, and to oppose their Attempts; Willing and Requiring all Our Subjects to take Notice of the same, whom We henceforth strictly forbid to hold any Correspondence or Communication with the said French King, or his Subjects: And We do hereby command Our own Subjects, and advertise all other Persons, of what Nation soever, not to transport or carry any Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, or other Contraband Goods, to any of the Territories, Lands, Plantations, or Countries of the said French King;

Declaring, that whatsoever Ship or Vessel shall be met withal, transporting or carrying any Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, or any other Contraband Goods, to any of the Territories, Lands, Plantations or Countries of the said French King, the same, being taken, shall be condemned as good and lawful Prize.

And whereas there are remaining in Our Kingdom, divers of the Subjects of the French King, We do hereby Declare Our Royal Intention to be, that all the French Subjects, who shall demean themselves dutifully towards Us, shall be safe in their Persons and Effects.

Given at our Court at *Kennington*, the 17th Day of *May* 1756, in the 29th Year of Our Reign.

G O D Save the K I N G.

His Majesty in Council was this Day pleased to Order, that a Commission should be prepared to authorize and empower the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to issue forth and grant Letters of Marque or Commissions to Privateers, for the Seizing and Taking the Ships, Vessels and Goods belonging to France, or the Vassals and Subjects of the French King, or others inhabiting within any of his Countries, Territories, or Dominions, and such other Ships, Vessels and Goods, as are or shall be liable to Confiscation, pursuant to the respective Treaties between His Majesty and other Princes, States, and Potentates.

His Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Henry Earl of Pembroke to be Lord Lieutenant of the County of Wilts, his Lordship this Day took the Oaths appointed to be taken thereupon, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy.

His Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. William Henry Earl of Rochford to be Lord Lieutenant of the County of Essex, his Lordship this Day took the Oaths appointed to be taken thereupon, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy.

His Majesty in Council was this Day pleased to approve of William Denny, Esq; to be Deputy or Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pensilvania, upon the Appointment of Thomas and Richard Penn, Esqrs. Proprietaries of that Province.

*Barcelona, April 28.* The Master of a Ship, who left Mahon the 23d Instant, says, That the Garrison is very well supplied with Provisions; that to strengthen it, Commodore Edgumbe had put a Shore all his Marines, and 150 Seamen, under the Command of Capt. Scroope; and that he himself sailed, on the 20th Instant, for Gibraltar, with His Majesty's Ships Deptford and Portland, and the Princess Louisa and Chesterfield followed the next Day.

*Turin, May 1.* Tuesday last being the Birth Day of the King of Sardinia, there was a great Court to compliment his Majesty thereupon, and in the Morning the Foreign Ministers and the Nobility went to compliment his Majesty on the Occasion. The Cardinal Archbishop of Turin receiv'd the Collar of the Order of Annunciation from his Sardinian Majesty this Week: He is the first Prelate that has had this Honour conferr'd upon him for a long Time.

*Dresden, May 9.* Their Majesties the King and Queen of Poland, accompanied by the Princes Xaverius and Charles, went Yesterday, after Dinner,