

THE
Historical Register,

Containing

An Impartial RELATION
of all TRANSACTIONS, Foreign
and Domestic.

WITH A

Chronological Diary

OF ALL

The remarkable OCCURRENCES,
viz. Births, Marriages, Deaths, Removals,
Promotions, &c. that happen'd in this
Year: Together with the Characters and
Parentage of Persons deceased, of emi-
nent Rank.

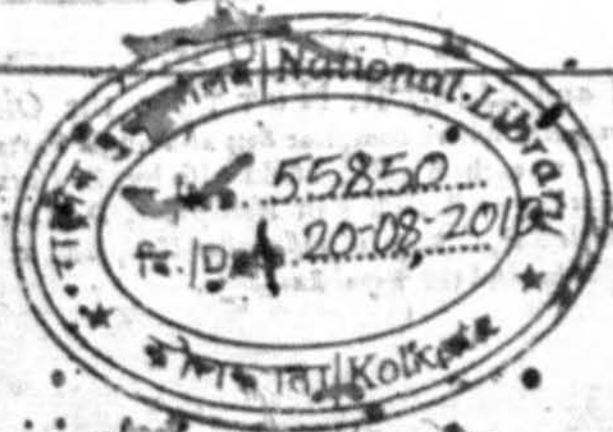
VOLUME XII,

For the Year 1727.

L O N D O N,

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son a Table is also added, at the End
of the *fourth Register*, of the Prin-
cipal Matters contain'd in that and
the three other.




T H

76 SEP. 92

LIBRA

Historical Register.

NUMBER XLV.

 HIS Register, being the First for the Year 1727, shall begin with a short Recapitulation of the most material Events that happen'd during the Course of the Year 1726.

A Recapitulation of the Chief Events of 1726.

IF ever Alliances were made in this World preparatory to a Rupture, such may those be call'd that have been made within a short Time past. The Parties therein concern'd, declar'd, They had no other View but to maintain the Peace; and yet, look where we would, we scarce saw any Thing but Preparations for War. The Year 1725 left us in total Silence what all those Preparations would come to; but the Year that is now expired, has almost let us into the Secret, and would infallibly have made us Masters of it, if a King, who from his own Cabinet, views what is doing in the Cabinets of other Kings, had not taken proper Measures in Time to prevent its Effect. Therefore the General Tranquillity was in Danger, while repeated Assurances were given, there was no other Design on foot but to preserve it. The Language was the same every where, and all Alliances seem'd to have one and the same View. Mean time, while there was so great a clashing of Interests, it could not be otherwise, but while some were sincere, others must be deceitful. This could only be judg'd of by the Event, and this, the Year 1726, has discover'd to us.

I. The

I.

The Treaties of *Vienna* and *Hanover*, concluded as it were out of an Emulation the Year before, gave Motion to all the others, and form'd two Parties continually watching one another. Each Side thought itself under an Obligation to fortify itself by particular Alliances, and vy'd which should make the most advantageous, or the most specious Offers to draw in more Powers to its Party. For this end, the Emperor, as the *Primum Mobile*, sends Ministers into *Russia*, *Sweden*, and *Denmark*. He prevents the two first Powers, by acceding of his own Accord to the Treaty of Peace concluded between them in 1722, and to their particular Alliance made at *Stockholm* in 1724. All *Europe* is watchful of the Consequences of a Step so little expected. *Sweden* wonders what could be the Motives of this sudden Accession of the Court of *Vienna*, after she had so long desired it in vain. She ponders with herself, whether she is oblig'd for it to the Sense which that Court has of its own State, or to the Invitation made to *Sweden* by the contracting Powers engag'd in the Treaty of *Hanover*; and to this Uncertainty 'tis owing that we still wait for the *Swedes* Resolution. *Denmark* has not made a formal Accession, but makes no Scruple to act in Concert with the Allies of *Hanover*. *Russia*, after having remain'd a long Time undetermin'd, or designing rather to leave the World in doubt of its League with the Court of *Vienna*, did not declare itself 'till the Month of *August*, by a Treaty sign'd on the 6th of that Month; the View of which, as is therein expressed, is, That the Peace happily establish'd in *Europe* may be preserv'd and maintain'd. 'Tis therein declar'd, that the King of *Spain* will accede to this Treaty, and 'tis agreed to invite the King and Republick of *Poland* into it. A reciprocal Gearanty is therein promised of all the Dominions and Provinces possessed by the contracting Parties. The mutual Succours to be furnished in due Time and Place are therein stipulated, and there's an Engagement to act in Concert against those who shall molest the Parties in their Possessions. So far the Case is much the same, and the Treaty of *Hanover* is drawn up almost in the same Terms.

II.

But upon what Footing do the Courts of *Vienna* and *Russia* engage to maintain the Peace happily established in *Europe*? Let us judge of it by the Sequel of the said

said Treaty: 'Tis by obliging themselves to do what the Duke of *Sleswick Holstein* desires, and by executing a particular Convention made thereupon between the contracting Powers, which shall be deemed as inserted in the present Treaty. This Passage is explained by the Secret Article of the Treaty of *Stockholm*, which concerns the Restitution of *Sleswick* to the Duke of *Holstein*. Now, if we follow the Plan formed a long Time since in *Russia*, in favour of this Prince, whom the late Emperor had united to his Blood, we shall see that the Empress acts upon the same Principles. This is what she declared even before her Accession to the Treaty of *Vienna*, by her Answers to the Letter from the King of *Great Britain*, and to the King of *Denmark's* Memorial on the Subject of her Armament, viz. 'That according to the Example of the late Emperor her Husband, she was resolved to put herself in a Capacity to give her Allies the necessary Succours, and to perform the Engagements into which she was entered with them.' From hence, that Armament of a formidable Fleet which seemed to threaten all the neighbouring Countries in the *Baltick*. So much for what relates to *Russia*.

III.

On what Footing does the Emperor propose to maintain the Peace so happily established in *Europe*? Why, on the foot of preserving a Trading Company, whose Establishment itself is a Violation of the most solemn Treaties of Peace; on the footing of certain Stipulations which proclaim the most extensive Views to draw this Commerce into the *Austrian Netherlands*; on the foot of assisting other Powers to revive obsolete Pretensions, to renew Rights which have passed into other Hands, and to divest other Rights, the Possession of which is guarantied to them by posterior Treaties; on the footing, to speak more clearly, of procuring to the Duke of *Holstein* the Recovery of a Dutchy possessed by the King of *Denmark*, and to the King of *Spain*, *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahon*, possessed by the King of *Great Britain*. For this purpose, as many Princes and States as possible are drawn into his Party. All the Electors of the Empire are solicited to come into it: And not content with engaging the Powers of the same Communion in it, Attempts are made to draw in those of a different Communion. No Offers are wanting to dazzle the Eyes of *Sweden*, nor is any Complaisance spared to

a powerful Republick, whose Suffrage is always a great Weight in the Balance of *Europe*. Insinuations, Caresses, Menaces, all are try'd: And so much for the Court of *Vienna*.

IV.

Then as to *Spain*, on what Footing does she propose to maintain the Peace happily established in *Europe*? On the foot of joyning all her Forces to those of the Emperor, in order to revenge the least Disturbance, the least Molestation, in the free Navigation of *Ostend*, as an Infraction of Treaties: On the foot of improving this Concert, this Resolution taken betwixt the two Courts, to look upon as common Enemies all that are so to his Imperial Majesty; that is to say, to treat as such all that shall oppose this Commerce established contrary to the Faith of Treaties: On the foot of sacrificing to this Plan, those Terms on which the Emperor was put in Possession of the *Netherlands*: On the foot of sacrificing a Republick to it, which has exhausted itself for the Sake only of his Imperial Majesty; or in Case the Republick was disposed to consent to a ruinous Accommodation; on the foot of forcing it to accept of a Mediation offered at the Sword's Point, and in a Manner that is used only from a Sovereign to his Subjects. From hence those violent Parties form'd in *Spain*, which would inevitably have proceeded to Blows, had any Thing less offer'd to hinder it, than the pacifick Temper of a truly religious King.

During this, an Alteration happens at that Court in which all others are concern'd. The Minister, who was the Depositary of that Prince's Power, and all his Secrets, falls all on a sudden into Disgrace; he takes Refuge with an Ambassador of a Foreign Power, from whence he is taken by Force, and clapp'd up in a Castle, but for what Crime nobody knew. The other Ministers, except that of *Vienna*, complain of it as a Violation of their Rights. The King of *Spain* himself thinks it a Matter of sufficient Importance for publishing a Manifesto to justify his Conduct. It was expected that this Alteration would make a considerable one in Affairs, but the *Spanish* Ministry still pursue the same Plan. Six Months were not elapsed, but a second Change happens likewise to the Liking of the Imperial Ambassador, and even the King's Confessor was displac'd to make Room for his. This Minister is the Sole Possessor of the most entire Confidence of the King and Queen;

Queen; and so complaisant are they, that they are only govern'd by his Views. By that means, the Union of the three Powers, the Empire, *Russia*, and *Spain*, is become more strict, and almost inviolable.

V.

All this while, there was a constant Talk of a Reconciliation between *France* and *Spain*, upon Account of sending back the Infanta. The Court of *Rome*, at least, labour'd it by their Nuncio's at the two Courts; and it was thought in the greater forwardness, because the Office of Prime Minister being at that Time suppress'd in *France*, this Alteration was look'd upon as a Satisfaction given to *Spain* in the Person of the Prince who had disgusted her. But the King quickly explain'd himself to his Ministers at Foreign Courts, that it was not from any Dissatisfaction with the Duke of *Bourbon* that his Majesty did this. And in short, this young Monarch being already Great by his fine natural Parts, when he had an Inclination to take the Reins of Government into his own Hands, had no longer Occasion for a Prime Minister; in which he acted like his Great Grandfather *Lewis XIV.* whom he proposes in all Things for his Model.

Another Thing made it be conjectured that there would be an Accommodation betwixt *France* and *Spain*: And that was, the Emperor's Complaisance in consenting to the Promotion of a Prelate to the Dignity of a Cardinal, whose Councils were to assist the young King in supporting the Weight of Affairs. The Declaration since made by the King in favour of the Constitutions of *Alexander VII.* and *Clement XI.* which he requires to be regarded throughout the Extent of his Kingdom, and to be observed as Laws equally binding both the Church and State, was looked upon as an Acknowledgement for that Promotion. But how much soever the Courts of *Rome* and *Vienno* might flatter themselves with hopes of detaching *France* by that Means from her Engagements with the Allies of *Hanover*, that same Prelate, who, they imagined, would break those Engagements, has only contributed to cement them the faster, and at the same Time that he declared to the Pope's Nuncio that he had no Account to render him for what pass'd in that respect, he gave Assurance to the Powers concerned, that the King would not depart from his Engagements.

VI.

The King of Great Britain, that Monarch who weighs the Interests of all Europe in the Balance of Equity, knew it well; his own Penetration made him Master of the vast Designs of those three Powers; he determined to prevent them, and for HIM to propose and execute is but one and the same Thing. He saw a formidable Navy in the North, threatening to cover the whole Baltick Sea, and to disturb the Neighbouring States; but he only stretched out his Arm, and this Fleet being pent up in its Harbours, lay without any Motion, as if it had been becalmed by Inchantment. He looked towards the South, and there he saw another Power fitting out Ships, making considerable Levies, and only waiting for the Arrival of his Treasure from the West, to put his Allies in Motion; upon which he did but extend the other Arm, and those Ships were nailed up, as it were, in their Harbour, as if they had been under the Power of some Spell; those Treasures gathering Rust in the very Mine, became of no Manner of Service to the Persons who expected so much from them. The British Monarch knowing Money to be the Sinew of War, binds up the Sinew, and the whole Body becomes inactive. To speak without a Figure, three Squadrons sent *a propos* to the North, the South, and the West, make his Power respected there, and every Tongue silent in their Presence. Thus his GEORGE baffled the Efforts of the three United Powers in the Year, which is expressed by this Chronogram:

CAESARIS, AVGVSTÆ, REGIS CONAMINA
RIDET ET PRÆVERTIT GEORGIVS.

Judge now, which of the two Parties was most sincere for preserving the Peace, whether the Party that armed itself on every Side, or That which rendered all those Armaments of no Effect.

VII.

But as it is not enough only to think of the Present without making Provision against Futurity, that Wise King, who sees all Things at one View, resolves to strengthen his Alliance. Being sure of France, which a natural Interest had pressed to joyn with him for maintaining the Balance of Power in Europe, he was inclined to bring in a Republick more interested than any in the Preservation of such Balance. That Republick perceived

ceived that the *Hanover* Alliance had no other View than to procure the Safety of her Commerce, and the Redress of all her Grievances. Being hemmed in by that Power of which she had most Reason to be dissident, she studies to engage those Powers for her that are nearest at Hand, to take effectual Care of her Security. She perceives the Necessity of fixing the Balance between the great Powers which are able to throw in Forces either to her Danger or to her Safety. She aims to be the Center of this Balance, by making a Choice of that Power from which she has most to hope or most to fear. The Neighbourhood of that Power, the Subjects of Controversy actually depending, Pretensions which are liable at every Turn to be revived, especially the Stipulations with respect to Commerce, with which the Treaties of *Vienna* are well'd, do not permit her to hesitate long.

What's the Result of it? At the very first Rumour of an Alliance on foot which was to make the Republick sure of Satisfaction, the Imperial Court, till then unmoveable, rouses and sends a Minister, in all haste to thwart it. Which Way does he go about it? Why, by declaring, that if the *Ostend* Company was again to be established, perhaps it should not be done; but that considering the present Posture of Affairs, and that it is inconsistent with the Imperial Dignity to retract what had been done in that Matter, it was more proper for the Republick to accede to the Treaty of *Vienna*. And then, to make this Prologue the better relished, this Minister adds, that he is only the Forerunner of another Minister coming from a remoter Country, with such Proposals as would make the Republick ample Amends for the *Ostend* Company. Mean time, this Republick, still disposed to hear what his Imperial Majesty had to propose for a real Reparation of its Grievances, no sooner discovers its firm Resolution, that its Deliberations on the Accession to the *Hanover* Treaty should not depend on a Crown that had nothing to do in the Affair, then the Imperial Minister on a sudden changes his Note, and lets fall such Expressions as shew'd what would be the fatal Consequences of a Navigation, from which the Court of *Vienna* expects such an increase of Power, and for the Support of which, *Spain*, and all the vast Dominions of the House of *Austria*, would take Arms, and the Fire of War be kindled over all Europe.

'Tis true, that the Imperial Minister soon recollected that he had said too much. He return'd again, and begged their High Mightinesses to consider, how much more wholesome, more safe, and more glorious it would be for them to accede to the Treaty of Vienna; and that if, in the mean Time, they were inclined to defer it for a while, they would be pleased to suspend any Resolution upon the Treaty of Hanover, at least 'till the Arrival of the Marquis of St. Philip. This Minister arrives, preceded by a menacing Letter from the Court of Spain. He spends nine Days in going from Brussels to the Hague, to avoid his being under a Necessity of presenting this Letter, which he foresaw would be attended with ill Success. He was a consummate Minister, bred up in the old Maxims of Spain, and not very averse to the new Scheme which prevails there at this Day. He frankly declar'd, the little Effect he promised himself from all the Measures that had been employ'd 'till then, to divert the Republick from acceding to the Hanover Treaty. But instead of discovering any Anguish for the ill Success of the Letter that came from Madrid on purpose to retard the Resolution of the States of Holland, he proposes to enter into a Conference without Delay; and the very Day that he sets his Foot into the Territories of the Republick, he desires, that a Full Power might be sent to the States Embassador at Madrid, in order to transfer the Negotiation thither.

The firmness of the Republick in rejecting so dangerous a Negotiation, convinc'd the Spanish Ministers, that the Republick was still of some Weight in Europe; and therefore they are excus'd from acceding to the Treaty of Vienna, provided that, on the other Hand, they don't engage in the Alliance of Hanover. Offers are made to them of a seeming Consent to Expedients, by which the Commerce of his Imperial Majesty's Subjects to the Indies, might be regulated on such a Footing, as if possible, might satisfy their High Mightinesses, and put a Stop to all Cause of Complaint on both Sides: But what Remedies could possibly be thought of in a Commerce, which the Business in Hand is to abolish? The well known Prudence of the High Mightinesses, which has so often been display'd, did not permit them to be misled by Proposals of this Nature; and one would rather think, it must assist them to see the Rupture which was ready to break out in the South, and in Lower Germany, and which they could not fail to resent without Delay. It

was high Time therefore, for the vigorous Resolutions of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, and for the Declaration of the Province of *Holland*, which foretold the speedy Concurrence of the other Provinces, to give such new Weight to the *Hanover* Alliance, as might render it capable of preserving the publick Tranquillity, by curbing those Powers that might offer to disturb it.

VIII.

It was the Policy of *France* and *England* to invite *Sweden* to the same Accession, after the Example of the States General of the United Provinces. This was accordingly done, and the Court was of Opinion, that it was their real Interest to accede; but the Thing being of sufficient Importance to be communicated to the Assembly of the States, they are still considering of the most proper Resolutions to be taken upon this grand Affair in the present Juncture.

The Difference of this Diet from another held at the same Time in *Lithuania*, is a Matter worthy of Consideration. In the one, every Thing passes with as much Decorum as Secrecy; the Debates are calm, and a special Committee is appointed to consider of the most intricate Affairs. In the other, behold all Things in Confusion! We are told in an exact Journal, not the Detail of the important Affairs therein treated, but we have all the Debates, even the minute Dispute that occurred in it; and 'tis surprizing to find nothing else there but Debates. In the one, they don't talk but act, all Orders of the Realm in Concert with the King and Senate conspire for the Common Good, and only suspend their Resolution, that it may be passed with the more Weight after Things are maturely consider'd. In the other, a great deal is said, but little done; the Deputies, in apparent Opposition to the King, seem to be against every Thing that he is for, and for every Thing that he is against. The King, himself desiring nothing but to please the Deputies, values himself upon his Complaissance in conforming to their Desires. From whence comes this Difference? Only from this, That among the Nations of Europe, some are for governing plain Kings, and others are so selfish and attach'd to them, that they Honour as much as they Love them. Moreover, *Sweden* being exhausted by tedious Wars, is in such ticklish Circumstances as require the profoundest Wisdom to make a right Choice of Friends and Measures.

Several Powers offer their Alliance to it, and the main Point is to judge of the Sincerity of their Intentions who propose such Alliances, and how far they may depend on their Attachment to its Interest. In this perplexity, the Discovery of a certain Intrigue seems to point on which Side lies a hearty Friendship and true Zeal for that Crown, and the Event will shew us what Sweden thinks of it.

IX.

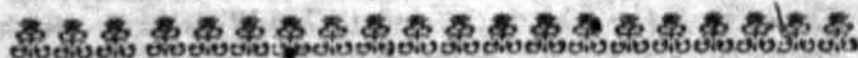
The Poles, on the contrary, pleas'd with themselves, will have no Innovations in their State, but those of their own making. They cannot bear that Foreigners should meddle or make with their Affairs. Their ordinary Diet had been limited, but for Form-sake 'tis resumed at the Time fix'd, in which they declaim against those Powers that demand a Redress of Grievances. An Incident which they did not dream of, the Affair of *Courland*, takes up almost all their Session. The only Business they expected to come upon the Carpet, the Sentence of *Thorn*, the Abolition of which was so loudly call'd for, and which was to be the principal Subject of the Diet, is but just touch'd upon *en passant*: And whatever mention was made of it, was only to confirm it, and to order it to be put in Execution to the utmost extent. This plain Contempt of the Intercession of the Powers that are Guaranties of the Treaty of *Oliwa*, is a fresh Proof of what might have been apprehended, if the Powers united by the Treaty of *Hanover* did not thereby serve as a Counterpoise to that of *Vienna*. 'Tis true, that one Weight is taken away from this Counter-Scale, but 'tis to be hoped, that the Prince, whose Defection we are afraid of, will revert to more favourable Sentiments; and that if he leaves us for a Time in a State of Uncertainty, it will only be to surprize us with a Resolution worthy of himself. Be this as it will, the Republick of *Venice* seems disposed to fill up that Space, and the King of *Sardinia*, who seems wavering between both Sides, knows too well what conduces to the Welfare of *Europe*, to add to the Yoke which threatens it.

X.

What must we infer from all this? Shall we have Peace or War? — This grand Question must be left to the Decision of the next Year, and of those Powers who having no View but the Preservation of the Peace, prepare for War, as if it was unavoidable. For our
Parts,

Parts, who know nothing of Futurity, let us confine ourselves to the Time present, by calling to mind the Time past. We therein perceive some Episodes, some of which don't at all enter into the General System, nor others, farther than according to the Use that is made of them: Such are, on the one Hand, a horrid Pestilence at *Constantinople*; a terrible Earthquake in *Sicily*; the Death of an Elector, and of a Princess who was for a long Time dead to the World: Such, on the other Hand, are a double Marriage contriv'd between the Courts of *Spain* and *Portugal*; the Emperor's Peace with the Regency of *Tripoli*; that of the States General with *Algier*; the Accommodation of the Court of *Turin* with the Holy See; the Difference of that same Court with *Genoa*: The Chevalier de *St. George's* Departure from *Rome*, and his Retreat to *Bologna*, which seems to conceal some Mystery, tho' all Projects founded on it must be Chimerical. In fine, what seems more real than any Thing, the Conspiracy form'd but discover'd against *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahon*; and Prince *Ragotski's* Motions in *Hungary*.

Heaven grant that all these Events may turn to the Advantage of those who fear God: That all, they who aim at disturbing the Peace of *Europe* under Pretence of maintaining it, may be confounded in their Projects: And that they who sincerely wish for Peace, may be blessed in all the Measures they take for attaining to so desirable an End.



ITALY.

SICILY.

IN the last Register, page 286, we gave an Account of a most dreadful Earthquake, that happen'd at *Palermo* in *Sicily*, where they have since published another Relation of it, which being the same in Substance with the Account we gave before, shall not be inserted here; but we think fit to mention some Remarks that are subjoin'd to that second Relation, which may serve to illustrate our former Account. But first we will take Notice, that this new Relation makes the Loss sustain'd

by the Inhabitants of *Palermo* to amount to above 6000 Persons, including Children, and the Damages suffer'd by the said Inhabitants to amount to above Seven Millions of Crowns. The Remarks we mention'd are as follow :

1. The City of *Palermo* has never been subject to Earthquakes as the other Southern Parts of *Sicily*.

2. The Shocks they have felt from Time to Time, and at a great Distance, have been very slight, and did no manner of Damage.

3. In the last, its Territory alone has been afflicted, the Earthquake having begun nine Miles from *Palermo*, at the Mount of *Cock*, which open'd, and was partly overturned, from whence it came winding as swift as Lightning to the City.

4. The Works of the Citadel have not suffered thereby, but the Houses of the Government and Commandment have been only damaged.

5. On the contrary, the Hillock in the City, called the Mount, has been almost quite overturn'd, having been surprizingly split in the Places where it was most Rocky.

6. The Earthquake, as they say, has been foretold by St. *Rosalie*, Patroness of *Palermo*.

7. Nothing thereof was felt at *Catanea*, *Siracusa*, *Agosto*, *Modica*, *Catagirona*, *Lauroini*, *Carientini*, &c. nor in the Valley of *Nole*, where Earthquakes are very frequent, and have made great Havocks in the Years 1691 and 1693, especially the last, which continued three Days, viz. the 9th, 10th, and 11th of January, which destroyed, as they say, 150,000 Persons, without reckoning those who dy'd with Hunger in the Fields.

8. From which it may be inferr'd, that *Sicily* is undermin'd by degrees, by the Sea-Water, or by subterraneous Fire, its Soil being almost nothing else but a Mass and Mixture of Minerals of all Kinds, and that it is to be scared one Day or other, it will be either totally torn asunder, or partly destroy'd.

V E N I C E.

ON the 4th of November last, the Count de Gergy, Ambassador of the most Christian King to the Republick of Venice, made a most magnificent Entry into that City, and the next Day was conducted to his Audience with the usual Ceremonies, on which Occasion he made the following Speech to the Doge and the Republick.

The Count de Gergy's Speech to the Doge and Republick of Venice.

OF all the Days of my Life, I think none to be so fortunate as this, which gives me Entrance into your august Senate; a Day, on which I enjoy the Honour of being Interpreter of the Commands of the most potent of Kings to the most illustrious of Republicks.

Having a long Time apply'd myself to the Study of that Policy which presides in your Councils, I was ambitious of a Post which would give me a nearer View of what I could but admire; and in the several Ministries with which the King my Master has honoured me, I used to think it the greatest Honour that a Statesman could arrive at, to be invested with an august Character to a Republick which Policy has rendered so famous.

My Happiness at this Day equals my Hopes, but my Admiration increases every Day, and the nearer I view all that's Grand in your Republick, and August in your Senate, the more Wonders I discover.

If I consider this potent Republick in a religious View, I perceive that as it is to Religion, you partly owe your Rise, Grandeur and Tranquillity; you have made her abundant Amends by the Protection she receives from you in Italy, where you are her Bulwark against the Infidels. Rome, the Centre of the Catholick Religion, worships God in Peace under the Shadow of your Power, against which, as against an immoveable Rock, the immense and haughty Empire of the Ottomans has so often suffer'd Wreck.

If I consider your Republick as to its Duration, twelve Centuries of growing Greatness have rendered it superior to the so much boasted Republicks of Antiquity, Rome, Sparta, and Athens, whose Grandeur, notwithstanding

withstanding all the Wisdom of their Legislators, became a Prey in a few Ages to Human Passions, and those Vicissitudes, that they could not stem as your Republick has done, which, far from being a Prey to the Ambition of its own Members, has often suppress'd, check'd and tamed that of its Enemies.

If I consider your Republick with respect to her Forces and Extent, I am struck with a new Wonder. The vastest Empires have Bounds; they have fertile Fields and numerous Subjects; but here I see another Sort of Greatness, which nothing resembles, and which, in my Opinion, nothing equals. The Sea, the vast Sea, notwithstanding its Agitation, Storms, and uncertain Motions, at once supplies you with Towns, Fields, Cittadels, Treasure and Defence. That barren Tract is more fruitful for you than the most plentiful Crops of Land. The troubled Waves, which in their Fury would shake the strongest Edifices, serve as solid Foundations for yours. They are a calm Harbour to you, while to other Dominions they rage in Storms, and while they serve as Boundaries to other Empires, they seem to extend yours to what Places soever they carry your Commerce and your Glory.

If I consider your Republick with respect to the Great Men it has, and does still produce, I see not, as elsewhere, a great People governed by only one wise Man, but a wise People governed by a Number of Men superior in Wisdom.

'Tis the Glory, Strength and Happiness of some Governments to form and possess one great Minister in a single Man. Here we have not one Man alone, but a collective Assembly of Great Men, or, if we may so call it, a Multitude of Ministers, whose Wisdom, deeper than the Sea, which serves as their Throne, would suffice for the Government of many Dominions, and has often approved itself to be superior to the united Forces of Powers combin'd against you.

In short, without pretending to settle the Preference which any one State may deserve one above another, yours, most SeneSr, will always be a Prodigy in the Eye of those who shall contemplate the Grandeur of it to find so small a Number of Subjects, and so much Power, so little Land and so much Wealth, so few Men and so many great Politicians.

This is what Men of Penetration discover in the Government of your Republick; but what adds a fresh

Lustré to its Glory is, that the King my Master esteems its Friendship, and that his illustrious Ancestors have set him an Example by so many Alliances betwixt his Crown and your Republick, and by the distinguish'd Regard which they have paid to it on so many important Occasions.

The King my Master is not only fond of these Alliances, from that wise Inclination which induces him perfectly to copy the Conduct of that great Monarch whom he succeeds, but also from the View he has by your Means to establish that Peace and Tranquillity in Italy, which he hopes to preserve throughout all Europe.

Princes often keep secret the Designs of their Embassies; but the King my Master, guided by superior Politicks, which are at the same Time more Sincere and more Noble, permits me, nay, charges me to speak in Publick, and to trust you with the Secret of his Councils without Fear. They only tend to the preserving of the Peace, to the rendering it durable, and to the procuring for all People the Advantages which they know how to reap from it.

That's what this young Monarch, already Great by his fine natural Qualities, and yet Greater by his serious Application to the Government of his State, in an Age, when vulgar Souls do not relish, or so much as know any Thing but Pleasures; this, I say, is what the King my Master prefers to the other Advantages which often excite the Ambition of Kings. His Aim is not at Conquest, nor to aggrandize his Dominions at the Expence of the publick Tranquillity. He is very Great, very Potent, his noble Ambition inclines him only to maintain the Peace and Union of all the Powers in Europe, by such a happy Medium to secure at once the Welfare of his own Subjects and those of his Neighbours; and by his Moderation to become not the Master, but the Father and Benefactor of all the Empires.

Your Councils, no doubt, are animated with the same Design. The Peace and Tranquillity of Italy was always the Object of your Wishes, and the Fruit of your Wisdom; and it will be still more solidly established, when you shall maintain it in Concord with a King already so moderate, that in his Youth he deserves both your Admiration and your Confidence.

For my own Part, most Serene Prince, I think myself happy to be at once the Minister of so noble a Design,

sign, and Spectator of the Wonders of your Government. May I long enjoy this double Advantage, and by my Respect and profound Veneration for your Serenity, deserve the Esteem of so many Great Men, who have themselves acquir'd that of all Europe.

S P A I N.

THE following Letters and Memorials, which will serve to transmit to Posterity the true State of the present Misunderstandings between the Courts of Great Britain and Spain, are so very material, that they need no Introduction, and therefore we shall only say, that we chose to put them under this Head, because they were chiefly transacted at the Court of Madrid.

Letters and Memorials which have lately passed between the Ministers of the Courts of Great Britain, France, and Spain.

Extracts of Letters, written by the Marquess de la Paz to the Marquess de Pozobueno, and by him communicated to the Duke of Newcastle.

Extract of a Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to the Marquess de Pozobueno, May 25, 1726, N. S.

IT is well known in the World how great Confidence the King has reposed in the Person of the Duke of Ripperda, the Honours he has heaped upon him, and the Employments to which his Majesty has been pleased to raise him: None is ignorant how great his Benignity was, when having resolved to remove him from the Management of Affairs, he assigned him an annual Pension of 3000 Pistoles, till such Time as he should be employed in a proper Manner in the King's Service. Every body here is informed, that after having accepted in Writing the Pension his Majesty had granted him, he made the most humble and respectful Acknowledgments to the King, for the Goodness, Pity and Honour which he had condescended to shew him, by treating him

him with so much Gentleness and Favour. Very far from behaving suitably to these Expressions, he most inconsiderately executed, what perhaps he had before conceived in his Mind, the taking Refuge, before twenty-four Hours from his Dismission from Affairs were expired, in the House of the Ambassador of England, accompanied by and in the Coach of the Ambassador of Holland, causing the Furniture and Things of most Value belonging to him the Duke, to be carry'd that very Night, as it were Privily and by Stealth, on that Ambassador's Mules, to the Ambassador of England's House, where the Duke of Ripperda stayed; and from thence he sent to acquaint his Majesty, by a Note which he wrote to me, that he had betaken himself to the said House as to an Asylum against the Insults he dreaded from the People of Madrid: This has been so publicly known, that to set it forth more at large, and in all its Circumstances, would be tedious and tiresome: But it is also indispensibly requisite to give your Excellency a particular Account of every Thing that has happened in the inmost Part of this Affair; to the End that at the same Time it shall be made publick, that the Duke of Ripperda was this Morning taken away by the King's Order, your Excellency may be informed, upon what weighty and mature Deliberation the King has proceeded on this Occasion; and of the justifiable Motives which have obliged and even constrained him to take this last Resolution.

As soon as the Duke of Ripperda had given Notice that he had retired to the English Ambassador's, who himself gave an Account of it to the King in an Audience which he desired, and which was granted him immediately, and engaged his Word to answer for the Duke's Person: His Majesty resolved provisionally, and for the greater Precaution against the Duke's escaping, if he should attempt it, that some Soldiers of his Foot Guards should, in a quiet Manner, secure the Avenues to the House of the English Ambassador, and post themselves in the Neighbourhood of it; Care being taken at the same Time to communicate to that Ambassador the said Resolution, signifying to him, that tho' his Majesty depended intirely on the Honour of his Word, yet, as the Precautions he might take, might not be sufficient to prevent some Disorder which the Duke might raise, his Majesty, for the greater Security,

rity, had taken that Resolution, upon which the Embassador needed not to entertain the least Distrust.

After this, his Majesty had the Goodness to order that the said Embassador of *England* should, by the passing of proper Offices, be informed, that the King having considered the Duke's specious Pretext of his Fear of the People, for justifying his taking Refuge, and asserting the Immunity of the House, his Majesty was pleased to offer him, that due Precautions should be taken for his Safety, and for securing him from all Insult, Fear and Apprehension: Declaring to the said Embassador, how much it would be to his Royal Good-liking, that the said Duke should leave his House, and that he would make use of this Expedient, which would immediately dispel all the Motives he had had for seeking Refuge in his House, and for remaining there.

The Embassador answered, that upon this his Majesty's Offer, he had sounded the Duke's Mind, who told him, that it was very certain he had assured the King by Writing, that he had no other Motives for taking Advantage of the Immunity of his House, than the Apprehension he had conceived of the Hatred the People of *Madrid* bore him; but that now looking upon his Majesty as provoked by his Rashness, and justly dreading the Effects of his Royal Indignation, he found himself obliged not to accept the Expedient which had been proposed to him, but to keep within the Sanctuary of that House for his Safety.

Notwithstanding the Obstinacy of so great a Provocation offered to the Authority of a Sovereign in his own Court, who made use of such mild and gentle Means, when he might instantly have exerted his Power, his Majesty was willing still to proceed mildly, and caused new Representations to be made to the Embassador, of the Prejudices and Consequences which might result against his Sovereign Authority over his Ministers, if no Notice should be taken of the Duke's Temerity, and if Regard were had to the Propositions he had taken upon him to make to his Majesty, because he fancy'd himself to be absolutely out of all Danger by Means of the Immunity of the Embassador's House. At the same Time was set before him in strong Terms the Scandal of this Example, which would authorize the Ministers of his Majesty, and of any other Sovereign, to be wanting to their Duty with Impunity, in hopes of being able to take Refuge afterwards in the House of a Publick Minister,

ker, and to withdraw themselves from the Jurisdiction of their Sovereign, in his Presence, and even in his own Court.

All these Reasons and Reflections were suggested to him, to the End he might the more effectually sollicit the Duke to engage him to quit his House, and that he might without any Restriction make use of the Expedient his Majesty had offered the Duke for his Security. To this second Application, the Embassador answered, that all the Instances he had made to the Duke were unavailable and fruitless, and that all he could bring him to was this, most humbly to beseech his Majesty to vouchsafe to permit him to retire for some Days into a Convent, which would remove the Scandal arising from his keeping in the House of a foreign Minister, and give him Time to set his Innocence in a clear Light.

All this did not yet suffice to determine his Majesty to make use of his Power, without taking the most mature Advice for his thorough Satisfaction; and he resolved to consult his Royal Council, laying before them all the Circumstances of the Case, to the End that with Knowledge of the Cause, the Council might consider attentively whether, without infringing the *Jus Gentium*, and the Privileges therein reciprocally considered and comprehended as belonging to Representative Ministers, the King might use Force, and take the Duke of Ripperda out of the House of the Embassador of England.

The Royal Council of Castile was duly convened and fully assembled for this Purpose, and having examined this Affair to the Bottom, by seriously attending to all its Circumstances; the Council gave the King their Opinion, That the Duke's Crime was in its Kind one of the greatest of those of High Treason that ever can be committed; that there were few such Crimes equal to it in its Circumstances; that there was Reason to fear its Consequences might render it yet more enormous; that it could not be doubted that in Crimes of High Treason not only the Houses of Embassadors, but even Churches themselves cannot serve for Refuge to the Criminals; that to assert the contrary, would be to maintain, that what the Law of Nations has introduced for their better Government and Correspondence, might be made use of for their Ruin and Destruction, by allowing the Refuge granted to the Habitations of Embassadors, out of Regard to the Sovereigns they represent,

(nor even to them in all Courts) to be stretched in favour of Subjects, who have under their Direction all the Forces, and the Management of the Finances of Kingdoms, and who know their Secrets, when they commit Crimes in their Employments; a Thing the most pernicious that could ever enter into the Imagination of any Man; and mutually prejudicial to all States and Princes in the World; for if it were established, they would be obliged to maintain, allow, and tolerate in their own Courts, all those who would contrive an attempt their Ruin; it being evident that in such Cases, with such ugly Circumstances, it ought to be presumed the King of England would not approve of them in his Ambassador, nor would defend him, because they are not comprehended among those which the Law of Nations admits, and likewise because of the Prejudice which such an Example might bring to himself.

In Consequence of this Report, and of Reasons so solid, clear, and incontestably well-grounded, and upon the unanimous Votes of the Directors of his Confidence, his Majesty resolved at length to have the Duke of Ripperda taken out of the Ambassador's House, ordering him to be carry'd to the Castle of Segovia. For which Purpose his Majesty appointed Don Lewis Cuellar, Knight of the Order of St. James, and one of the Alcaldes of the Court, (who was assisted by a Party of the Life Guards, led by Major-General Don Francis Valansa, Commandeur-Major of Castle in the Order of St. James, and Adjutant-General of the said Life Guards) with Order, that on this Day, being Saturday the 23th of May, as soon as the Doors of the Ambassador of England's House should be opened, he should enter it, and take the Duke of Ripperda, and with a sufficient Guard convey him to the Castle of Segovia, seizing all the Papers he might have, and omitting nothing for securing all those which might be found in his Coffers and elsewhere; most expressly commanding that in Case the Ambassador should resist, the said Don Lewis Cuellar and the Major-General, should perform the Offices befitting the Regard and Respect due to his Character before they proceeded to Execution; but if that should not entirely suffice, to use Force for seizing the Person of the Duke.

Before any Thing was executed, I did, by Order of his Majesty, inform the Ambassador of England of all this, discharging him from the Word he had given; and in

in Consequence of the whole, the Duke of *Ripperda* was this Morning taken away without Scandal or Disturbance, and the said Don *Lewis Cuellar* conducted him to the Castle of *Segovia* in his Coach, guarded by some of the Life Guards; to the End he may be there secured at his full Ease, and free from the Insults which he vainly and without Ground apprehended.

His Majesty has ordered me to inform your Excellency of the Particulars of this whole Affair, that you may be apprised of the Justification with which the King has acted therein, and of all that preceded his Majesty's just Resolution; that you may acquaint his *Britannick* Majesty and his Court with the Truth of the Fact, and of all that has happened upon it.

Extract of another Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to the Marquess de Pozobueno.

AS the present unexpected Case, which has happened through the Temerity only and great Inconsiderateness of the Duke of *Ripperda*, has been so contrary to the King's Inclination, as is most clearly apparent from all the Circumstances which have attended it, and which I have very amply described in another Letter to your Excellency; and the King's most sincere Desire to preserve and maintain with his *Britannick* Majesty the most strict and perfect Harmony and Correspondence, being not altered by it; this Majesty has ordered me to signify to your Excellency, that when you shall give his *Britannick* Majesty an Account of what has happened, you are at the same Time likewise to assure him, of the sincere and unalterable Friendship which the King on his Part preserves towards him; and for a Proof of it, your Excellency is to represent, in a strong Light, the Regard which his Majesty has had the Goodness to shew to his Ambassador, and his House; having deferred for so many Days, after the Duke had taken Refuge in it, his final Resolution to take him out of it, though he had it in his Power to have done it from the Moment he went thither; his Majesty being informed, that the Rights of the Houses of Ambassadors did not extend to the present Case. This your Excellency is to execute very punctually, for such is the King's express Will.

Madrid, May 25.

Mr. Stanhope's Memorial to the King of Spain, July 13,
1726, N. S.

S I R,
THE underwritten Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of his Britannick Majesty, having received Order to communicate to your Majesty the Sentiments of the King his Master, upon the Duke of Ripperda's taking Refuge in his House at Madrid, and his being taken from thence by Force by Virtue of your Majesty's Orders: And having at the same Time received the Copy of a Letter which the Duke of Newcastle, Minister and Secretary of State, was ordered to write to M. de Pozobuena, your Majesty's Minister at London, exhibiting amply the King's Sentiments on this Affair: The said Ambassador judges he cannot better acquit himself of this Duty, than by delivering to your Majesty the annexed Copy of the said Letter, as containing literally all that he has been commanded to represent upon the said Transaction; without adding any Thing of his own, more than most humbly to beseech your Majesty to be pleased to have Regard to the solid and just Reasons therein alledged; promising himself, from your Majesty's high Wisdom and Justice, all necessary Reparation of the Violence done to the Immunities of publick Ministers; and to have the Resolution communicated to him which your Majesty shall judge proper to take in this important Case: that he may be able to give an Account of it to the King his Master. Done at Madrid the 13th of July, 1726.

Wm. Stanhope.

To the Marquis de Pozobuena.

S I R,
Whitehall, June 20, 1726.
I Presented to the King some Time ago, as I have already acquainted your Excellency, the two Extracts of Letters which you did me the Honour to deliver to me, one concerning the Refuge which the Duke of Ripperda had taken in the King's Ambassador's House at Madrid, and his being forcibly taken from thence by his Catholick Majesty's Order; the other, which you gave me at the same Time, containing the strongest Assurances of his said Majesty's Desire to preserve and maintain with the King my Master a perfect Harmony and

and good Correspondence. Your Excellency will not be surprized at not having had an Answer sooner, upon an Affair so important as that in Question is, if you will recollect, that though Mr. Stanhope's first Letter on this Subject was of the same Date as yours, viz. May 14,¹⁴ it did not come to the King till May 30,²⁵ at Night; and June 10.

that the Cause of this Delay was, that the Ambassador's Courier, who set out but an Hour after him who was dispatch'd by your Court, was stopt seven Days at *Vitoria*: And even that Letter, as appears by its Date, having been sent at the Time when Mr. Stanhope was in great Perplexity upon what had been just done to him, he could only write in general and confusedly in the Hurry he was in, and referred himself for a more distinct and particular Account, to what he should send by a Person whom he promised to dispatch in a few Days from *Madrid*. You will easily conceive, Sir, that his Majesty, before he was exactly and fully informed of the Fact in all its Circumstances, could not determine what Answer to give upon so nice and important an Affair, in which not only the Glory and Dignity of his Crown, but likewise of all Sovereign Powers, his Catholick Majesty himself not excepted, are so much concerned. That Person being since arrived, and the King having full Information, I am now to communicate to you his Majesty's Sentiments upon so disagreeable an Occurrence.

To come then to the Fact, I must begin by telling you, that his Majesty does not pretend, that publick Ministers may protect Persons who are in the Service of Princes where they reside, or who are accused of any Crime against them: And his Majesty has observed with Pleasure, that his Ambassador never had any such Thought, as appears evidently by Mr. Stanhope's Behaviour towards the Duke of Ripperda, when at his Return from his Country-Villa, he found him very unexpectedly in his House, in Company with the Ambassador of *Holland*. His Excellency began by making the Enquiries necessary for rightly understanding his Case; as, what Situation he was in with Respect to his Catholick Majesty, and what Reasons had induced him to seek that Refuge, that he might be able to regulate his Conduct accordingly, and judge whether it were convenient for him to permit him to remain there.

The first Question that Mr. Stanhope asked him, and which indeed was the most essential one, was, whether he had still any Employment under his Catholick Majesty, or whether he was in any Manner whatsoever in his Service? To which the Duke answer'd, He was not, that the Night before his said Majesty had, at his Request, absolutely discharged and dismissed him from all his Employments. The second Question his Excellency put to him, was, Whether he had Ground to believe himself to be in Disgrace or under the Displeasure of the King of Spain, or to apprehend that his Catholick Majesty designed to charge him with any Accusation, or to cause him to be prosecuted for any Crime or Misdemeanour committed in his late Ministry? For neither in the one or the other Case would he have found any Encouragement, much less any Protection, from his Excellency. The Duke having answered, That quite to the contrary, far from looking on himself as disgraced, and yet less to be suspected or in Danger of being accused of any Crime, the King of Spain had had the Goodness to grant him a Pension of 3000 Pistoles a Year, in Recompence of his past Services: And perceiving that what he had said had not all the Effect he wished on the Mind of his Excellency, he shewed him an original Letter, of which I subjoin a Copy, wherein the Marquess de la Paz signifies to him, in the Name of his Catholick Majesty, that as the Duke himself had desired, his Majesty consented to his laying down his Employments, and did him the Favour to grant him a Pension of 3000 Pistoles a Year, till he should employ him in his future Service, in such Manner as to Him should seem most convenient. All this not having yet satisfy'd his Excellency, he would know what Motives he had for coming to ask the Protection of his House; to which the Duke reply'd, That it was not from the least Apprehension of any Violence on the Part of his Catholick Majesty, of whose Favour and great Goodness he had just received so evident a Mark as the Pension he had granted him; but that he was in Fear of his Life, from the inveterate Malice of his Enemies, and the Rage and Fury of the Populace, who had that very Day insulted his Domesticks, and declared publickly that they would come at Night and attack his House, and tear him to Pieces.

However, notwithstanding the Marquess de la Paz's forementioned Letter was more than sufficient to con-

vince Mr. Stanhope, that the Duke of *Ripperda* was neither in the Service of the Catholick King, nor suspected of any Crime; but that on the contrary, his Catholick Majesty had even given him very recent Marks of his Goodness; yet Mr. Stanhope, ever careful not to do any Thing that might be disagreeable to the King of Spain, would not promise the said Duke Harbour in his House, without first acquainting his Catholick Majesty with it, and knowing his Sentiments upon it; requiring M. de *Ripperda*, in the first Place, to send in Writing to the Secretary of State the Motives of his Retiring; and the next Day, the 16th of that Month, his Excellency had thereupon an Audience of his Catholick Majesty, when having given him an exact and sincere Account of what had passed between him and the said Duke, he was fortunate enough to be assured from his Catholick Majesty's own Mouth, that he was not displeased with his Proceeding, whatever Cause he had to be so with the Duke of *Ripperda's*, in taking Refuge in the House of a Foreign Minister; adding, that the said Duke having asked a Passport that he might retire to *Holland*, he could not grant it him, till he had first delivered up several Papers of Consequence to his Service, which he had in his Hands; and therefore he desired Mr. Stanhope would engage, not to permit him to escape out of his House, till his Catholick Majesty should cause a List to be drawn of his Papers, and send to get them, which should be done the next Day; to which Mr. Stanhope consented, and gave his Word for the safe keeping of the Person of the Duke of *Ripperda*, which was all the King of Spain required of him: And his Catholick Majesty's Approbation of all that Mr. Stanhope had done, cannot be more strongly confirmed, than by the Letter, of which I subjoin a Copy, that the Marquess de la Paz wrote to him that very Day, in which he tells him, That the Catholick King had entire Confidence in the Word his Excellency had given him, to keep the said Duke of *Ripperda* in his House; and acquaints him, that it was resolved, for the greater Security, that some Soldiers should be posted in the Neighbourhood and Avenues of his House; assuring him at the same Time, that in this Proceeding there was not the least Distrust on the Part of his Majesty with relation to his Excellency, but that it was only for taking the greater Precaution against the Attempts the said Duke might make to escape.

Mr. *Stanhope* having therefore, in Consequence of what the Catholick King had done him the Honour to say to him in the Audience he had just had of his Majesty, given his Word to the Duke of *Ripperda*, that he might remain in his House, as long as the said Duke should not attempt to escape out of it, he could not retract that Engagement but by Order from the King his Master, and no other Person in the World had a Right to release him from it: So that none can deny, that after all that had passed on both Sides, the making use of Force to take the said Duke out of his Excellency's House, without having previously obtained, or at least asked the Consent of his *Britannick Majesty*, must be looked upon as an Infraction of the Law of Nations.

Your Excellency will see, that even your Court was of that Opinion, by the *Marquess de la Paz's* Letters to Mr. *Stanhope* of the 18th and 21st of the said Month, of which I likewise subjoin Copies; By which it appears, that though the Catholick King had begun to entertain Uneasiness at the Duke of *Ripperda's* Stay in his Excellency's House, yet all his Catholick Majesty required of him, was, to use Means of Perswasion to induce him to leave it: And Mr. *Stanhope* on his Part, always ardently disposed to do all that may be agreeable to the King of *Spain*, without prostituting the Glory of the King his Master, and his own Character of Ambassador, by breaking the Word he had given in Consequence of what his Catholick Majesty had done him the Honour to say to him, wrought so effectually with the Duke of *Ripperda*, pursuant to the Intimation he had received from his Catholick Majesty, that he prevailed with the said Duke to consent to leave his House, provided he might be permitted to retire to a Convent: And I cannot conceal from your Excellency, how much the King my Master was surprized, that this Proposition was not accepted, not being able to conceive any solid Reason for its being rejected.

But what has much more surprized the King my Master, and renders the Treatment of his Ambassador yet the more unreasonable, is, that it does not appear, that before Force was used, after all that had passed on both Sides, his Ambassador was ever asked in Form to deliver up the said Duke, or make him quit his House; not even after the Resolution taken by the Council of *Castile*, by which he was declared Guilty of High Treason; nor was the said Resolution, or the Contents of it,

it, communicated to him, but at the Time when the Officer of Justice, accompany'd by a Military Officer with 60 Guards, having enter'd his Excellency's House with a Commission to force it, delivered to him a Letter from the Marquess *de la Paz*, in which he signify'd to him, that he was discharged from the Word he had given; that they were to take the said Duke out of his House, and seize all the Papers that might be found in his Possession, by making strict Search in his Coffers and elsewhere. And this was done on the Spot, notwithstanding the Protest of the Ambassador, who desired only, that the Execution might be suspended till he had answered the Marquess *de la Paz's* Letter, which was refused him.

His Majesty perswades himself, that your Excellency yourself will own (without deciding whether Mr. Stanhope had Right or not to give his Protection to M. de Ripperda) that after all that had passed between his Catholick Majesty, his Ministers, and the said Mr. Stanhope, it was requisite at least, according to all Rules, that before Soldiers were sent to his House, the foresaid Resolution of the Council of *Castile* should have been notify'd to him in Form, and that his Catholick Majesty had determin'd, in Consequence of that Resolution, to take the said Duke out of his House by Force, in Case he would not deliver him up; and that they should have waited to see what Effect that Notification would have produced; there being nothing that could have justify'd in such a Case the Violation of the Immunities of an Ambassador's House, but the utmost Necessity.

Thus, Sir, having laid before you without any Disguise the Fact in Question, in Answer to the Extracts of Letters you gave me; the King my Master hopes, that this Affair being placed in its true Light, his Catholick Majesty will discover so clearly, how much it concerns his own Interest, as being one of the Powers of Europe most to be respected, to prevent the Consequences which might be drawn from such an Example of the Violation of the Immunities of publick Ministers; that he will be pleas'd to take upon himself the Care of ordering on this Occasion all necessary Reparation to be made, for preserving the Privileges which have ever been annex'd to that Character. This the King my Master expects from the Wisdom and Justice of his Catholick Majesty, and that he will thereby enable Him the better to answerably on his Part, to the Assurances

of a sincere and inviolable Friendship which you have given on his Catholick Majesty's Part, in pursuance of the Orders contained in the foresaid Extracts. I am, with the most profound Regard,

S I R,

Your Excellency's
Most humble and most obedient Servant,
Holles Newcastle.

The four Letters referred to above by the Duke of Newcastle, are the following

I. Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to the Duke of Ripperda.

S I R,

THE King our Master having thought fit to admit the Representation your Excellency made to him Yesterday, to retire from the Employments which his Majesty had conferred upon your Excellency; he has resolved to favour your Excellency with the Grant of a Pension of 3000 Pistoles a Year, till his Majesty does for the future employ your Excellency in his Service, in such Manner as may appear to him most convenient. I acquaint your Excellency with this, by his Majesty's Order, that you may be informed of the Royal Resolution in the one and the other Matter. I am, &c.

From the Palace, the
14th of May, 1736.

Juan Baptista de Orendayn.

II. Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to Mr. Stanhope.

S I R,

THE King is perfectly assured of the Honour of the Word your Excellency has given his Majesty, to keep the Duke of Ripperda in your House: But as all the Precautions your Excellency may take, may perhaps not be sufficient to hinder some Folly or Disorder which that Gentleman might attempt, his Majesty has resolved, for the greater Security, that some Soldiers shall be posted in the Neighbourhood and Avenues of your Excellency's House, who may be vigilant to hinder all Irregularity which that Duke might undertake without your Excellency's Knowledge: There not intervening in this Affair the least Distrust on the Part of his Majesty, for what relates to your Excellency; but only

to

to take the greater Precaution for his Security: Which his Majesty has ordered me to acquaint your Excellency with, that you may not in any Manner doubt of his Royal Confidence. I am, &c.

From the Palace the
16th of May, 1726.

Juan Baptista de Orendayn.

III. Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to Mr. Stanhope.

S I R,

THE King my Master being perswaded, from what the Duke of Ripperda himself has expressed by Word of Mouth and in Writing, that the only Motive he had to retire to your Excellency's House, was to seek an Asylum in its Immunity against the Insults which he might apprehend from the People of Madrid, for he could not fear any Harm on the Part of his Majesty, who with so much Distinction and Pity had removed him from his Royal Feet; his Majesty has thought fit, for putting an End to the Scandal which the Retreat of the Duke into your Excellency's House gives, to take Measures for his Security, and to render him safe from all Suspicion and Apprehension; and in this Intention his Majesty orders me to tell your Excellency, that it will be very agreeable to him that the Duke retire from your Excellency's House, and that you make use of the Measures and Precautions which his Majesty offers for his intire Security against all Attempts of the People; since by these Means all the Motive ceases, which the Duke has had, to claim the Immunity of your Excellency's House; and his Majesty promises himself, and hopes from your Excellency's Prudence and Reflection, that you will forthwith dispose him to it. I am, &c.

From the Palace, the
18th of May, 1726.

J. B. de Orendayn.

IV. Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to Mr. Stanhope.

S I R,

THE King my Master knows your Excellency's Comprehension, and considers that your Excellency is well informed of the Circumstances of the present Case of the Duke of Ripperda, so as not to suppose your Excellency is ignorant of the prejudicial Consequences which

which would result against his Royal Authority over his Ministers, if the Temerity of the Duke were consented to, and if his Majesty should hearken to the Propositions he would make, because he finds himself, as he thinks, absolutely sheltered by the Immunity of your Excellency's House. What scandalous Example would it not be! which would authorize every Minister of his Majesty, and of every other Sovereign, to be wanting to their Duty, in hopes of being able to retire afterwards to the House of a Publick Minister, and to withdraw himself from the Jurisdiction of his Sovereign, even in his own Court: This Reflection, as well as others of no less Weight, may induce your Excellency to sollicite anew the Duke of *Ripperda*, and to perswade him to retire out of your Excellency's House, by making use only of the Precautions which his Majesty has offered for his Security against the Insults of the People of *Madrid*, as I had the Honour to acquaint your Excellency in my Letter of the 18th Instant by Order of his Majesty, who commands me to declare again to your Excellency the particular Satisfaction with which his Majesty will commend your Excellency, if you will apply yourself to bring the Duke to Reason, and to perswade him to admit and make use, without Restriction, of the Precautions his Majesty will take for his Security as soon as he will quit your Excellency's House: His Majesty promising himself, with all Confidence in your Excellency's Prudence, that you will take this Step with all the Activity that is proper, to the End it may prove the Sincerity with which your Excellency interests yourself, to get rid of this Perplexity, which cannot but incommode you. I am, &c.

From the Palace the
21st of May, 1726.

J. R. de Orendayn.

Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to Mr. Stanhope.

St. Ildefonso, Aug. 17, 1726.

S I R,

BY repeated Accounts brought by Expresses since the 15th Instant, his Majesty has been informed, that the *English* Squadron, commanded by Admiral *Jennings*, has viewed the Coasts of *St. Andro*, approached that Port,

Port, and since entered that of *Santona*, being permitted so to do by the commanding Officers of those Parts, on the Faith of the Friendship and good Correspondence which they know subsists and is cultivated on the Part of the King my Master with his *Britannick Majesty*, in which they were likewise confirmed by Admiral *Jennings's* Protestations of Peace, and by the Pretext of taking in fresh Water alledged for the Necessity of entering that Port, which he did without any Resistance, and without the least Damage from the Castles on the Coast. But as the King finds it necessary for his Conduct, to know immediately his *Britannick Majesty's* precise Intentions by this Motion, and the true Designs of the said Squadron, his Majesty has ordered me for that Purpose only, to dispatch this Courier to your Excellency with all Expedition, and in his Royal Name to write you this Letter, that in your Answer (which his Majesty expects by the same Courier) your Excellency may expressly declare, without any Equivocation, and with all Clearness, what are the true Intentions of his *Britannick Majesty*, and the real Designs of the *English Squadron*; for if your Excellency does not immediately answer Categorically, and without Equivocation, his Majesty will take such Measures and give such Orders as suit his Royal Service. I am, Sir, &c.

Don Juan Baptista de Orendayn.

Letter from Mr. Stanhope to the Marquess de la Paz.

Madrid, Aug. 17, 1726.

S I R,

I Have just received the Letter which you have done me the Honour to write to me, this Day at Noon, acquainting me that his Catholick Majesty had received repeated Advices since the 15th Instant, that the *English Squadron* commanded by Admiral *Jennings* had viewed the Coasts of *St. Andero* and approached that Port, and afterwards entered that of *Santona*, which the commanding Officers at those Places had permitted, trusting to the Friendship and good Correspondence which they know subsists and is cultivated on the Part of his Catholick Majesty with the King my Master, in which the Protestations of Peace made by Admiral *Jennings* confirmed them; and that under the Pretext of taking in fresh Water in that Port, he entered it without any Resistance, or the least Damage from the Forts on the Coasts; but

but that his Catholick Majesty finding it necessary for his Conduct, to know immediately the real Intentions of his *Britannick* Majesty by this Motion, and the true Designs of the said Squadron, had ordered you to dispatch this Express to me with all Diligence, and to write to me in his Name the said Letter, to the End that in my Answer, which his Catholick Majesty expects by the same Express, I should declare without any Equivocation, and with all Clearness, the true Intentions of the King my Master, and the Designs precisely of the *English* Squadron; and that in Case I do not immediately answer Categorically, and without Equivocation, his Catholick Majesty will take the necessary Measures and give Orders proper for his Service.

Upon which I have the Honour to tell you, that not having had any Order from the King my Master upon the Subject of the Categorical Declaration which his Catholick Majesty demands of me, I durst not take upon me to give it, even were I informed of the true Intentions of the King in sending this Squadron; but if that will be agreeable to his Catholick Majesty, I will instantly dispatch a Courier to *London* with your said Letter, that I may receive, without Loss of Time, Orders from my Court thereupon; and 'till he returns, his Catholick Majesty may be assured, that the said Admiral durst not have made any Declaration or Protestation that was not exactly conformable to his Instructions, and to the King's true Intentions.

I shall be much obliged to you, Sir, if you will be pleased to let me know To morrow, whether his Catholick Majesty approves my dispatching a Courier to my Court, as I have proposed; and if he does, you will be pleased to send me an Order at the same Time for Post-horses. I am, &c.

Wm. Stanhope.

Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to Mr. Stanhope.

St. Idelfonso, Aug. 19, 1726.

S I R,

THE King has read your Excellency's Answer to the Letter which, by his Royal Order, I had the Honour to write to your Excellency the same Day, to desire you to declare the Intentions of his *Britannick* Majesty, and the Designs of the *English* Squadron commanded by Admiral *Jennings*, which had appeared on the Coasts

Coasts of *St. Anders*, and afterwards entred the Port of *Santona*, under Pretext of taking in Water. And his Majesty observing, that your Excellency not having any Order from the King your Master, to make the Categorical Declaration which his Majesty demanded, your Excellency durst not take upon you to give it, even though you should have been inform'd of his *Britannick* Majesty's true Intentions in sending the said Squadron; but that your Excellency offered, if it might be agreeable to his Majesty to dispatch a Courier to *London* with my said Letter, to the End you might receive without loss of Time the proper Orders thereupon from your Court; and that his Majesty in the mean Time, 'till the Return of the Courier, might be assur'd the said Admiral had not dar'd to make any Declaration or Protestation whatsoever, but what was exactly conformable to his Instructions and to his *Britannick* Majesty's true Intentions: Upon this Representation the King agrees, for the End your Excellency proposes, to your dispatching a Courier to the Court of *London*; his Majesty being pleas'd to express himself further, that as he hoped to know distinctly the Intentions of his *Britannick* Majesty in the Destination and Designs of that Squadron commanded by Admiral *Jennings*, so his Majesty desires to know likewise the Designs of the other Squadron sent to the Seas of *America*; since, if as is given out, both the one and the other of those Squadrons are employ'd, for the Protection and Security of the Commerce of the *British* Nation, the King not having interrupted nor molested hitherto that which the Subjects of *England* carry on lawfully in all his Majesty's Dominions, and taken Care only to put a Stop to unlawful Commerce in the *West-Indies*, which is prohibited to all Nations by the Laws of these and those Kingdoms, and no less by Virtue of what is stipulated and articled in the very Treaties of Peace and Commerce with *England*; all Pretence ceases, and his *Britannick* Majesty may recall the said Squadron sent to *America* for the Security of his Commerce, seeing his Majesty has not hitherto disturb'd it, nor does he actually interrupt or hinder it now: And upon both Points his Majesty will expect a sincere and Categorical Answer from his *Britannick* Majesty, for the regulating his further Deliberations; he having this Day, and 'till a positive Declaration comes of the Designs of each of the said Squadrons, been pleas'd to take the Resolution to send Orders to all his Commanders of the Coasts and Ports of this

Peninsula, that they do not in any Manner permit the said Squadron intire, nor any Ships that are Part of it, to approach or enter any Port of all *Spain*; and in case they should desire Provisions or fresh Water, they shall only be permitted to fetch it with a few small Boats or Shallops. This his Majesty has ordered me to notify to your Excellency, that you may be appriz'd of it, at the same Time sending you the Order for Post-Horses, that the dispatching of the Courier may not be delayed.

I am, &c.

Don Juan Baptista de Orendayn.

Mr. Stanhope's Memorial to the King of Spain, Sept. 24, 1726.

S I R,

THE undersigned Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of his *Britannick* Majesty, having transmitted to his Court the Letters (Copies of which are subjoyned) that passed between the Marquess de la Paz and him the 17th and 19th of *August* last, on Occasion of the Arrival of the *British* Squadron on the Coasts of *Spain*; receiv'd Yesterday by an Extraordinary Courier Orders to represent thereupon to your Majesty, That the King his Master was very much surprized, as well at the Style as the Substance of the Marquess de la Paz's said Letters, in which Expressions are used, and Demands made, that are not usual among the Ministers of Princes who live together in Friendship; and that the King cannot conceive how your Majesty could take Alarm at the Fleet under Sir John Jennings appearing on the Coasts of *St. Andro*, since the Marquess de la Paz himself acknowledges, that the Admiral, as soon as he arrived, assured the *Spanish* Governors, that he was not come with an Intention to commit any Hostility, but as a Friend and with pacifick Dispositions, having been driven upon the Coasts by contrary Winds, and by the Necessity of supplying himself there with fresh Water.

That the King is likewise surprized, that your Majesty yourself should not know the Reasons, and be sensible of the Necessity, which obliged his Majesty to make those Naval Preparations; considering the Engagements into which some of the most considerable Powers of *Europe* have of late entered, and of which his Majesty has complained so often and so loudly. The Naval Armaments, and Equipments, which have been made in most

of

of the Ports of *Spain*: The Preparations of War, and the Motions of a considerable Number of *Spanish* Troops, towards that Part of their Coast which lies nearest and most convenient for executing an Enterprize on his Majesty's Dominions: The great Hopes of the Emissaries and Adherents of the Pretender, who have publickly boasted of the Assistance they should receive from those Parts: The Confidence they had in it, and which has appeared clearly in the pernicious and indiscreet Conduct of some among them, who have been lately received and favoured at *Madrid*: This, joyned with the Intrigues which have been carried on with the *Muscovites*, and the Reasons his Majesty has to suspect the ill Designs upon which the three Ships were sent last Year from *Petersbourg* to *Cadiz*, and thence to *St. Andero*: The Knowledge his Majesty had last Winter, by the Avowal of the Minister of *Spain*, that there was an offensive Alliance between the Courts of *Madrid* and *Vienna*; and that by one of the Articles of that Alliance, it was stipulated to use open Force to get *Gibraltar* restored to the King of *Spain*, a Place which his Majesty possesses by virtue of so just a Right: The great Subsidies which have been furnished to the Imperial Court, and which are not seen to be settled by any Alliance that has yet been made publick: The notorious Infractions which the *Spanish Guarda Costas* have for a long Time made, with respect to the Commerce and Navigation of his Majesty's Subjects in the *West Indies*; Infractions which have been so often complained of without the least Appearance of Satisfaction or Reparation: These things joyned together, are sufficient to exhibit clearly the Reasons which have induced his Majesty to take the Measures he judged proper, and to equip the several Fleets which have put to Sea; and his Majesty's Subjects would have had just Cause to complain, had not Care been taken for the Security of the Kingdom, and of their Rights and Properties, which they saw threatened and in Danger. Wherefore his Majesty expects, that his Ships of War will be suffered to enter, and be received into the Ports of *Spain*, in the Manner conformable to what has been regulated by the several Treaties that actually subsist between the two Nations.

The said Ambassador has likewise Order to take this Occasion to inform his Catholick Majesty, of the Surprise the King is in, that no Satisfaction has yet been offered, upon the extraordinary and unjustifiable Man-

ner of taking by Force out of his House the Duke of *Ripperda*: A Proceeding of which he complained some Time ago, in the Name and by the Command of his Majesty. And lastly he has Order to say, that the King is no less surprized at the Affront offered to his Majesty's Consul residing at *St. Sebastian*, who was obliged to quit his Post, and forced to go to *Salamanca*; contrary to the Law of Nations, and contrary to the Tenour of the Treaties which subsist between the two Crowns. Done at *Madrid* the 24th of September, 1726. *Wm. Stanhope.*

Letter from the Marquess de la Paz to Mr. Stanhope.

St. Ildefonso, Sep. 30, 1726.

S I R,

IN Pursuant to what your Excellency did me the Honour to write to me in your Letter of the 24th of this Month, I immediately put into the Royal Hands of the King my Master the Memorial which your Excellency sent me directed to his Majesty, as a Reply made by your Excellency (in Consequence of the Orders of his *Britannick* Majesty your Master, which were receiv'd by the Return of a Courier dispatched to *London*, who brought them to your Excellency the 24th Instant) to the Contents of two Letters which his Majesty commanded me to write to you the 17th and 19th of last Month, the Copies of which with that of your Excellency's Answer of the 17th are hereto subjoined, as being the Basis and Foundation of the said Memorial, of the Contents of which his Majesty has been distinctly informed.

Notwithstanding his Majesty had Reason to promise himself and to expect from the Court of *Great Britain* a more clear, positive, and Satisfactory Answer, yet he is not at all surprized to see, that the *English* Ministry, (continuing their bad Disposition and Intentions, which they have for some time discovered by their Proceedings, tho' they endeavour to palliate them by amicable Protestations and Expressions that have not been spared on this Occasion) instead of opening themselves and giving a sincere and amicable Explanation, as was desired, touching the Destination of the Squadrons commanded by the Admirals *Hosier* and *Jennings*, going to the Seas of the *Indies*, and appearing on the Coasts of this Kingdom; have thought fit to make use of new Turns and specious Pretexts, to multiply Complaints that are without Ground,

and

and are intirely opposite to the Candour and good Faith which his Majesty observes religiously towards his Friends and Allies; but are suitable to the Genius of the present *English* Ministry, as appears by those exaggerated airy Pretences and Reasons which they accumulated to persuade the Parliament of the imaginary Dangers that threatened the *British* Crown and Nation, to induce and determine them to consent to the fitting out of so many different Squadrons, with an Expence so great and so little needful. However, his Majesty has ordered me to declare to your Excellency, what the pure Force of Truth and his most upright Intentions dictate to his Royal Heart, with Respect to the Suspensions which his *Britannick* Majesty shows of the Conduct of this Court.

In the first Place it is alledged, That naval Armaments and Equipments have been made in the Ports of *Spain*, when it is certain and notorious to the World, that none extraordinary have been made, nor so considerable as might give the least Apprehension to *England*; notwithstanding the numerous Squadrons which with so much Ardour, Application, and Diligence, were equipping and sending out of the Ports of *England*, gave Ground and sufficient Reason to his Majesty to make like Preparations and Dispositions; especially when the Reports which were spread at the same time through all Parts of *Europe*, threatened the Dominions and Interests of his Majesty in these Kingdoms and those of the *Indies*; and when those Reports were corroborated and confirmed by the Route taken by the said two Squadrons, which have appeared before the Ports of the *West-Indies*, and those of these Kingdoms.

The same is to be said, with Respect to the Motions of a considerable Number of Troops towards the Coasts nearest to *Great Britain*; with this Difference, that the Complaint of the King my Master on this Head is precedent and solidly Founded, seeing it was the Arrival of the *English* Squadron in Sight of *St. Andrews* that finally alarmed the Tranquility and good Faith in which we lived; as appears manifestly by the little Preparations made in those Parts, where just the necessary Garrisons were maintained, which cannot be lessened in Time of Peace, considering former Examples, for securing from Surprise and Danger the Docks made in the neighbouring Places for building Ships.

As for encouraging the Pretender, it is not possible to accuse his Majesty with Truth of having taken any
Step,

Step, or hearkened to, much less given Assistance in Support of, his Designs and Pretensions to that Crown; the Conduct which has been observ'd towards those very Emissaries which are confusedly hinted at in your Excellency's Memorial, being indeed ~~the most~~ authentick Testimony of his Majesty's good Faith and religious Friendship towards his *Britannick* Majesty; but his Majesty cannot answer for, nor charge himself with the Rumours on that Subject which the Adherents of the Pretender have spread to encourage one another.

It is not comprehensible what Ground there is for suspecting of ill Designs, and for imputing to suspicious Intelligence, the Admission into the Ports of Spain of three Merchant Ships of *Muscovy*; which according to the Custom observ'd towards all Nations that are Friends, and Entrance at *Cadiz*, and afterwards went to *St. Andero*, ~~and~~ back there: So that, in Truth, there must be a great Propension to Suspicion and Distrust, to conceive it from so innocent a Proceeding.

As for the false Confidence which the Duke of *Ripperda* made last Winter to your Excellency, that an offensive Alliance had been concluded, by which the Emperor had expressly engag'd himself for the recovering of *Gibraltar*, his Imperial Majesty has already sufficiently endeavoured to undeceive his *Britannick* Majesty; the Drift being only to remind his *Britannick* Majesty of the Promises he has made on this Head, which neither his Majesty nor the *Spanish* Nation can ever renounce.

It is notorious, that his *Britannick* Majesty has expended and employ'd considerable Sums lately in *France*, *Prussia*, *Sweden*, *Holland*, and other Parts, to promote his Ends and accomplish his Negotiations; yet hitherto the Catholick King my Master has never entred into the Curiosity to learn the Motives of those Expences; and this renders it the more strange, that his *Britannick* Majesty should come to ask an Account of the Reasons his Majesty has had to send Subsidies, or not, to the Emperor.

The Complaint which has for its Subject the Conduct of the *Guarda Costas*, and which traduces their Operations, as Infractions of Commerce, and of the Treaties, is in all Respects the most unjust that could be formed; because those Ships have not done any Thing but in Discharge of their Duty, by hindering as much as possible only the unlawful and clandestine Commerce of all Nations in the *West-Indies*, from which they are so solemnly prohibited

prohibited by Virtue of repeated Treaties, the Articles of which have hitherto been infringed, to the Prejudice of his Majesty, and of his Rights, of which it is attempted to defraud him with so much Insolence in his lawful Dominions; it not appearing, that on the Part of his *Britannick Majesty*, the least Remedy has been used against the Conduct of his Subjects, and those of other Powers in those Parts.

Your Excellency concludes with declaring another new Surprize of his *Britannick Majesty*, that no Satisfaction has yet been given upon the taking of the Duke of *Ripperda* out of your Excellencies House: But as that Resolution the King my Master took was no less well weigh'd, than fully justifiable before God and Man, and so conformable to the Law of Nations, that no Violation of your Excellencies Character, nor of the Protection of the House distinguish'd by the Arms of *Great Britain*, can be argued from it; the Reasons consider'd which his Majesty had the Goodness to exhibit to the Publick in the circular Letter that he order'd me to write to all his Ministers in foreign Courts, and particularly at that of *London*, to the End his *Britannick Majesty* might be inform'd of the Fact, and to those of other Powers residing at this Court; his Majesty does not see Cause to speak or think any more of that Affair, seeing there are neither Means nor Necessity for the Accommodation demanded.

To justify the more by Effects his Majesty's Conduct, and that by them a right Judgment may be form'd of his *Britannick Majesty's* Intentions, and of the Expedition of his Squadrons, the King has order'd me to send to your Excellency Copies hereto annexed of the authentick Advices which he receiv'd from the *Havana* since your Excellency presented your Memorial; that it may be seen whether the Operations of *Admiral Hosier* and his Squadron at *Portobello* are worthy of a Prince who gives such Assurances of the Subsistence of his Friendship as does his *Britannick Majesty*, and who complains so much of Infractions on the King's Part, without being able to prove the least Hostility, Disregard, or Action, that is not conformable to the best Correspondence.

In the Supposition of this Fact, which his Majesty cannot avoid deeming a Violation of the reciprocal good Correspondence and of the Peace, as well from the Hostilities committed, as those which shall have been continu'd in *America*; he will see himself obliged to take the Measures that are most conducive to the Honour and Dignity

of his Crown, and to the Security of his Dominions and of his Subjects; unless his *Britannick Majesty* disposes and orders without Delay the making speedy Satisfaction and Reparation.

*At St. Ildefonso, the
30th of September,
1726.*

Don Juan Baptista de Orendayn.

Copy of the Deposition of Don Diego Ramos before the ordinary Judges of the City of Trinidad de Cuba, the 28th of July 1726.

THE Judges caused immediately to appear before them *Don Diego Ramos* inhabitant of this City, Passenger in the Vessel named in the Act, and administered to him the Oath which he took according to Law in the Name of God our Lord and the holy Cross; and questioning him upon the Matter contain'd in the said Act, he declared as follows,

That he was at *Portobello* at the Time when twelve *English Ships* of War appeared there, which was the Sunday of the holy Trinity this Year that they were four Ships of the Line and eight Frigates; that the same Day the President of *Panama* who was at *Portobello* knowing they were come to an Anchor at *Bassimentos*, sent a Messenger, to complain to their Commander in Chief, and demand why they were come upon those Coasts; that they answered the next Day, that they were come by Order of their Sovereign, to convoy the *English* licensed Ship which was with the Galleons; which Answer was brought by some *English* of the said Squadron, having among them one of the Factors of *Cartagena* of the *Asiento de Negros* in a Barge, which entered the Port, giving an Account at the same Time (being required) that there was on War between the two Crowns; that the *English* licensed Ship and a Packet-Boat which were in the Port were deliver'd to them; that the President seeing they did not depart, sent to ask them why they remain'd at Anchor on the Coast; they answer'd they could not retire till new Order from their Sovereign; that four of the twelve Ships kept Guard from *Bassimentos* to *Ysla fuerte* on the Coast of *Cartagena*, out of Sight of Land; and that the *English* whenever they pleased went to *Portobello* in their Shallops, and walked about without regarding the President or the General and Admiral

miral of the Galleons; and having met on the Coasts of *Portobello* a Bylander which came from *Sancti Espiritus*, they stopped it and opened the Letters, and return'd them open, and let the Bylander go, being desirous to learn News of *Sig. Castagnetta* whether he was come from *Spain* with the Squadron expected in *Spanish America*; that Provisions being wanted at *Portobello*, a Council of War was held, in which it was resolv'd to ask Passage of the *English Squadron*, that the *Spanish Barks* might go to fetch Provisions from *Cartagena* to *Portobello*; that the *English Commander* granted them Passage, on Condition they were only in Ballast without Plate or Fruits; and in short that all the Motions of the said *English Squadron* betokened War; that the last Thing the Deponent saw, the same Day he came out of *Portobello* for this City (in company of twelve Bylanders, with two *Spanish Convoys* bound for *Chagre* laden with Goods to be transported to *Panama* taken out of the Galleons) was, that one of the *English Ships* of the Line which lay outermost, made Sail towards the said Vessels, which thereupon fled back to *Portobello*, where most of them entred, and the rest passed near to the Ship which let them pass and went under the Cannon of the Castle, and afterwards put out again to Sea and sail'd away; and the Bylander in which the Deponent came, pursu'd her Voyage, and he knows no more; and that all he has declar'd is publick and notoriously true, under an Oath, the Sanctity of which, and the Importance to his Majesty's Service, were represented to him at the same Time it was administered to him, and he took it; declaring that he was 34 Years old, and signing with the Judges *Bernal-Fernandez-Diego Ramos*, before me *Sebastian de Cala* Notary Publick.

Copy of a Letter from Don Antonio Serrano, Commadore of the Squadron, at the Havana the 8th of August, 1726.

THE Governor acquainted me the Night of the 4th Instant, that he had Advice by a Letter of the 16th of July from *Portobello*, that the Galleons were there, and that twelve *English Ships* lay off that Port, which having sent to demand the licensed Ship and a Packet-Boat which were in that Port, they were deliver'd to them; that out of the Twelve, four Frigates were detached which cruized on the Coast from the said Port to *Ysufuerte* and *Cartagena*; that one of our Frigates coming

out of *Portobello* with two *Bylanders* for *Chagre*, an *English* Ship followed them, and overtaking them, made them go back to the said Port, without doing them any other Damage; that the *English* Boats come and go at *Portobello*; that the Men go ashore and walk where they please, that the President of *Panama* *Alderete* was at *Panama* where *Don Antonio de Castagnetta* was not arriv'd, nor had they any News of him.

By another Letter from *Portobello* written to one of this Place, the same Thing almost is advised, adding, that the Treasure had been remov'd to *Cruzes*, which is within seven Leagues of *Panama*.

Letter from the Count de Morville to the Nuncio Maffei,
October 17, 1726.

S I R,

HAVING communicated to the Ambassador of *England* the Letter which your Excellency has received from the Nuncio in *Spain*, he told us, That he had not any Account of what Admiral *Hofier* had done in *America*, but that all he could answer till he had fuller Information, was, That at the Time his Catholick Majesty is demanding speedy Satisfaction upon pretended Hostilities, of which he knows nothing, he cannot help taking Notice, that Mr. *Stanhope* having made Complaint to his Catholick Majesty, of the Insults made on the Ambassador and Subjects of his *Britannick* Majesty residing in *Spain*, has not only been hitherto unable to obtain Reparation, but no explicate Answer has been returned to him; that the *Spaniards* were the first who began to violate the Faith of Treaties on several Occasions, as is set forth in the Memorial which Mr. *Stanhope* has presented to the *Spanish* Ministry; that he will write to his Court, to acquaint them with the Letter from the Nuncio in *Spain*, and will communicate to us the Answers. Wherefore his Majesty, who will not do any Thing but in Concert with the King of *Great Britain* and his other Allies, has thought fit to wait for what that Prince will answer upon the Subject of M. *Aldobrandini's* Letter: But at the same Time he sees with Concern, that instead of recurring to Methods of Pacification, the Catholick King threatens to make War, and expresses this in such injurious Terms against the *English* Ministry, that he seems bent to force the *English* to a Rupture; the Consequence of which will be, that
notwith-

notwithstanding his Majesty's sincere Intentions to preserve the Peace of *Europe*, he will find himself obliged to assist his Allies, who will demand the Succours he is bound to furnish them, in Case they be attacked. That in the mean Time his Majesty is always disposed to enter into all the reasonable Ways of Pacification, and will not renounce them, till he shall find himself forced to it by his Engagements.

Letter from the Count de Morville, his most Christian Majesty's Secretary of State, to Mr. Walpole, Ambassador from the King of Great Britain at the Court of France.

Fontainebleau, Nov. 11, 1726.

S I R,

Though his Majesty was already informed in general of the Grievances of the King of *Great Britain*, yet he has received a more ample and particular Knowledge of them by the Memorial which your Excellency has communicated here, and which has been sent to Mr. Stanhope, for him to form upon it the Answer that has been demanded on the Part of the Court of *Madrid*.

I might here repeat to your Excellency the Assurances which the King has so often caused to be given to the King of *Great Britain*, of his Majesty's Resolution to perform all his Engagements in their utmost Extent; and to look upon whatever shall be attempted against the King of *Great Britain* and his other Allies, as done to himself: But to give still a more particular Proof of his Majesty's Confidence in that Prince, and of the Concert in which he is determined to act in what relates to all the common Interests, he has been pleased to order me to send to your Excellency, a Copy of his Answer to the Court of *Madrid*, to be transmitted by the Nuncio *Maffei*. The King of *Great Britain* will see by it, that his Majesty persists in demanding the entire Satisfaction of his Allies, and that he does not leave the King of *Spain* the least Doubt, that if under Pretence of what is pretended to have been done by Admiral *Hofler* in *America*, or for any one of the Reasons alledged by the Marquess de la Paz in his Letter of the 30th of September last to Mr. Stanhope, the King of *Great Britain*, or his other Allies, shall be attacked or molested, he is resolved to make it a common Cause with them, and to assist them, in Execution of the Engagements he has contracted, and from which he declares he can never de-

part. In this your Excellency may therefore assure the King your Master, there will be no Variation at any Time, or under any Pretence whatever. I am,

SIR, Your Excellency's

~~most humble and most~~
obedient Servant,
De Morville.

Letter written by the Count de Morville to the Nuncio
Massei, Nov. 11, 1726.

SIR,

YOUR Excellency has seen by the Letter which I had the Honour to write to you the 17th of last Month, the Reasons which hindered his Majesty from answering distinctly to the Proposition which the King of Spain had been wrought upon to make to his Majesty, to declare himself against the King of Great Britain, under Pretence, that he having first infringed the Peace, by the pretended Hostilities committed in America by Admiral Hoyer, the Engagements merely Defensive which his Majesty has contracted with England and other Powers, do no longer subsist.

Though I have already acquainted your Excellency with Part of the Grievances which Mr. Walpole had alledged, in the Name of the King his Master, against the Court of Madrid, his Majesty thought fit to have them more particularly stated to him, that he might not act but after mature and serious Deliberation: Whereupon the King of Great Britain has caused the Memorial to be communicated to him, which he sends to Mr. Stanhope, containing an accurate Deduction of all that has passed since the Treaties of ~~Utrecht~~, and appearing not to have added any Thing but upon Facts that are either Publick, or proved by Informations which the King of Great Britain affirms he has in his Hands.

I must not conceal from your Excellency, that his Majesty's Council was struck extremely with all the Proofs by which his Britannick Majesty makes out, that the Court of Spain were the first who, by previous Proceedings, made a Breach in the Peace of Europe; and that it was They who gave Birth to Alarms and Distrusts, sufficient to kindle a new War, unless the Justice and Piety of the King of Spain apply the necessary Remedies.

Neither must I conceal from your Excellency, that his Majesty is actually required to execute the Engagements

ments he has contracted with the King of Great Britain; on the Motives, that the Safety of his Government, as well as that of his Subjects, is really attack'd by Projects that he has the Proofs of, the making Use of which has been deferred, only in hopes that a general Reconciliation might be brought about, which might have dissipated all the Outrages capable of new kindling War.

It is in this View, that the King has exerted all his Efforts to establish a mutual good Intelligence between the Courts of *France* and *Madrid*, and his Majesty is not ashamed to avow, that he has not ceased to make the most pathetick and the most pressing Instances to obtain it. He thought he might reasonably flatter himself, that the Goodness of Heart of the Catholick King, his Tendernefs for the King his Nephew, and all the Proofs of Zeal and Respect which he has receiv'd from the *French Nation*, would easily dispose him to so just and natural a Reconciliation: But his Majesty is forced to acknowledge, that he has met with nothing from the King his Uncle but Refusals, and the most settled Indications of an absolute Indifference.

What is yet the more surprizing, is, that at the Time when the King of *Spain* is exhausting his Country of all the Gold and Silver, to give immense Subsidies to a Foreign Power, he owes above Eighty Millions to *France* for the Succours which *Lewis XIV.* furnished him, by Land and Sea, to fix that Prince on the Throne of *Spain*; and is it possible to be perswaded after this, that the Treaty of *Vienna* is only Defensive?

But without offering here to remind his Catholick Majesty of the Obligations he has to a Nation, which will never repent of having sacrificed their Fortunes and Lives for a Prince of the Blood of their Kings, and to keep only to what regards his Majesty's Allies, whose Interest affects him no less than his own; your Excellency will observe, that independently of the Treaty of *Hanover*, his Majesty was before engaged by the Treaties of the Triple and Quadruple Alliances, to assist the King of Great Britain in Case of Disturbance in his Dominions, and to support the Republick of *Holland* in the Rights which they had acquired by the Treaties of *Munster*, of which they have ever since been in Possession, and which the King of *Spain* himself has acknowledged as certain and incontestable.

If his Catholick Majesty has changed his Opinion since, and if he has thought fit to engage to support the Company of *Ostend*, which a little while before he judged was established unjustly, and contrary to the Engagements of the Crown of *Spain*, his Majesty has no Reason to follow his Example; and the Fidelity with which the King of *Great Britain* has observed all the Points of the Alliance, which he has contracted with *France*, obliges his Majesty to be no less faithful on his Part.

He therefore thinks himself bound to joyn with his Allies, in demanding Satisfaction of the Court of *Spain*, upon the several Grievances of which they have already complained; and to declare to his Catholick Majesty, that if under the Pretext of what is pretended to have been done by Admiral *Hofier* in *America*, or for any one of the Reasons alleged by the *Marquess de la Paz* in his Letter of the 30th of *September* last to Mr. *Stanhope*, he thinks fit to come to a Rupture with the King of *Great Britain*, or with the other Allies of *France*, his Majesty cannot excuse himself from assisting and supporting them, pursuant to his Engagements, against all Powers who shall attack them, and will make it a Common Cause with them.

Nothing certainly could give his Majesty deeper Concern, than to be forced to come to that Extremity; and he cannot but conjure the Catholick King to reflect maturely on the fatal Consequences of a War, which cannot but be imputed to his Catholick Majesty's constant Refusal to enter into any Methods that might have procured the Reconciliation of the two Crowns.

When your Excellency sends to *Madrid* the Answer which I have been ordered to make to you, you cannot too much assure the King of *Spain* of the tender Friendship which his Majesty bears to the King his Uncle, and of the sincere Desire he has to concur in a general Pacification, joyntly with his Allies. I am, &c.

Letter from Mr. Stanhope to the Marquess de la Paz.

Madrid, Nov. 25, 1726.

S I R,

HAVING sent to my Court the Letter which you did me the Honour to write to me the 30th of *September* last, in Answer to my Memorial of the 24th of last Month, I have received Order from the King my Master, to express to you his Surprize at the Contents of the

the said Letter, and his deep Concern to see, that after his Majesty had explained himself in so clear and open a Manner upon the Reasons that induced him to make those Naval Armaments, of which the King of Spain had complained; instead of a direct, plain, and satisfactory Reply which his Majesty expected to the several Articles of my Memorial, his Catholick Majesty should have been prevailed upon to evade answering, and to have Recourse to Advices come from the *West Indies*, to decline giving the Satisfaction that was demanded of him.

As the King is most sincerely and ardently desirous of maintaining a good Correspondence with Spain, he could have heartily wished, that the Behaviour of his Catholick Majesty on this Occasion had not laid him under an indispensable Necessity of exposing, in its true Light, the whole Tenour of that Prince's Conduct with Respect to his Majesty, ever since the Establishment of that strict Union which now subsists between the Emperor and Spain. From this simple and naked Rehearsal of what has passed it will evidently appear, that his Catholick Majesty, from the Time that he entred into Engagements with the Court of *Vienna*, has only waited for a favourable Opportunity to break with his Majesty, to attack his Dominions, and to endeavour to place the Pretender upon the Throne of *Great Britain*.

No sooner were the Treaties of *Vienna* concluded, but the Duke of *Ripperda* took the Liberty to throw out publickly threatening Discourses, and to make Reflections in the most insolent Manner upon his Majesty and his Allies. I complain'd of this, but far from *M. de Ripperda's* receiving the least Reprimand on that Account, Part of what he had there given out was at that Time made good by the peremptory Demand of *Gibraltar*, contain'd in the Letter the Marquess *de Grimaldo* wrote to me the 13th of *July* 1725, by Order of the King of Spain. It was formally declar'd in that Letter, 'That the Continuance of the Alliance and of the Commerce of *England* with Spain, depended absolutely on the immediate Restitution of *Gibraltar*. This Declaration was confirm'd by the Language the Queen herself held to me, in an Audience I had soon after of their Catholick Majesties.

There can be no stronger Proof of their Catholick Majesty's Approbation of *M. de Ripperda's* Behaviour, than the great Honours to which they promoted him, and the entire

entire Trust they conferred on him, at his Return to *Madrid*: And as what he had given out at *Vienna*, relating to *Gibraltar*, was verified; so from that Time Measures were taken to make good what he had likewise said there, 'That the King should be driven out of his Dominions, and the Pretender placed upon the Throne of Great Britain. For this Purpose, a Person of Note, with whom that Minister had contracted a most intimate Acquaintance during his Stay at *Vienna*, was sent from *Rome* to *Madrid*, with credential Letters from the Pretender, and had frequent Conferences with the Spanish Ministers; who jointly with him formed Projects for invading his Majesty's Dominions: For carrying on this Design, Preparations were made conformably to those Projects, and a Body of Troops was sent to the Coasts of *Galicia* and *Biscay*; for the transporting of which, the Ships that have been since sent from *Spain* to the *West-Indies*, and the Russian Men of War then in *Spain*, were to have been employed. For though you have been pleased to assert, that the *Muscovite* Ships came only on a trading Voyage, yet his Majesty has at this Time in his Hands undeniable Proofs of their having been fitted out at the Expence of the Pretender's Adherents, and sent from *Muscovy* on Purpose to be made use of in an Expedition against his Majesty: For this End it was, that they were sent from *Cadix* to *St. Andero*, to be ready for that Service. Nothing hindered the Execution of this Enterprize, but the vigorous Resolutions of the Parliament, and the Preparations they enabled his Majesty to make, by fitting out his Fleets for the Defence and Security of his Dominions.

As to the Secret offensive Alliance of which *M. de Ripperda* made the Discovery last Winter; not only to me, but likewise to the Ambassador of *Holland*: though you are pleased to call this a false Confidence; yet it is freely left to the Judgment of every impartial Person, who will but observe, that he who declar'd to two Ambassadors, that there was really a secret offensive Alliance, was actually prime Minister to his Catholick Majesty, who honoured him with his intire Confidence; that it was He who had himself made the Treaties of *Vienna*, and who consequently knew better than any one the Truth of what he said to the Ministers of two great Powers, to whom he was giving Audience; that he never denied he had made such a Declaration, when it was publicly talked of; that he was never disown'd in it

by

by the King his Master, who continued him a long Time after in his Ministry, with the same Trust, and the same Authority; and, in a Word, that such his Discovery of a secret offensive Treaty, was never alledged for one of the Causes of his Disgrace.

The Emperor's establishing the *East-India* Company at *Ostend*, which carries on the Trade from thence to the *East-Indies*, in Violation of the 5th and 6th Articles of the Treaty of *Münster*, and of several other Treaties actually subsisting, is an Offensive Act, which *Great Britain* and *Holland* had and still have a Right to oppose by open Force, and even to call upon their Allies for Assistance to oppose it the more successfully; That his Catholick Majesty had this Sense of it, appears by the repeated Representations made to the Mediators by his Ministers at the Congress of *Cambray*; and also by the Memorial which the Marquess *de Pozobuena* presented at *London* the 5th of *April* 1724; wherein among other things he sets forth, 'That if after all that had been represented to his Imperial Majesty on the Part of the States General of the United Provinces, seconded in the strongest manner by the High Allies, the Cession of the *Netherlands* should come to be confirmed by *Spain*, without reserving expressly to itself the exclusive Right on the Navigation to the *Indies* in general, and without Exception; the Consequence would be, that the States General would be rightly intitled to demand Satisfaction of *Spain* for having thereby made a great Infraction in the Treaty of *Münster*; and further, being not able to enjoy the Effects of the said Treaty in this Particular, they would be disengaged from the Reciprocal Obligation to abstain from the Navigation of the *Spanish Indies*; His Catholick Majesty then looking upon the Establishment of that Company to be so much against the Faith of Treaties, that he insisted strongly upon this Affairs being brought before the Congress, in order to have the said Company abolished.

This Demand deserves the more Observation, because his Catholick Majesty made it of his own Motion, having sent the said Memorial ready drawn up to the Marquess *de Pozobuena*, as that Minister himself declares at the Beginning of his Letter to the Duke of *Newcastle* dated the 1st of *April* 1724: In that same Letter, which accompanied the Memorial, the Marquess *de Pozobuena* among other Things says, 'His Majesty has resolved to solicit the mediating Powers, the rather because he

is sensible they are equally interested in it: In that View, he has thought fit to order me to represent in his Name, these well-grounded Allegations, and to do my self the Honour to make Instances to his *Catholick Majesty*, to induce him to send Orders to his Plenipotentiaries at the Congress at *Cambray*, to the end that with those of his Majesty they may insist upon the Abolition of the said Company, and by Concert oppose its Establishment, as being very prejudicial, and of such pernicious Consequence to his Interests, as well as to those of the mediating Powers.

The Forbearance hitherto of *Great-Britain* and *Holland* to make Use of forcible Means, neither can nor ought to be interpreted, to be a Departure from their Right, since their Patience in an Affair they are so much interested in and so essential, has proceeded only from their Moderation and Desire to try all other Methods before they come to such Extremities. In the mean time, they have been so far from acquiescing in the Establishment of that Company, that they frequently made strong Representations on this Head to the Imperial Court, and lately to that of *Spain*. How then could his *Catholick Majesty* grant his Protection to that Company, allow it Privileges in Trade contrary to his Treaties with *Great-Britain* and *Holland*? and even declare his Resolution to support it in all Events, as appears most plainly from the Answer which his *Catholick Majesty* gave me, when I desired to know, whether in Case the Emperor would not agree to a Proposal for adjusting that Affair which the King of *Spain* himself had judged reasonable, his *Catholick Majesty* would not then desist from supporting the Emperor in this Pretention: The King of *Spain's* Answer was, That he would not say That, for he must stand by his Engagements with the Emperor. That Resolution of his *Catholick Majesty* is also evident by his Letter to the States General, and by the Declaration which the *Marquess de St. Philippe* made in *Holland*, That his *Catholick Majesty* would look upon whatever should be undertaken against the Ostend Trade, as done against himself. His *Catholick Majesty* could not make a Declaration of this Nature in any other View, than that of forcing *Great-Britain* and *Holland* to submit to the Emperor in this Particular; or with an Intention of coming to a Rupture with his Majesty: For the King of *Spain* must easily foresee, that from the Instant he had entered into such Offensive Engagements with the Emperor, in Support

Support of this Trade, *England* and *Holland* would have the same Right to act, and to call for the Assistance of their Allies against *Spain*, as they had before against the Emperor alone.

The Refusal of Entrance into the *Spanish* Ports to any Ship of the Squadron commanded by Sir *John Jennings*, tho' the Admiral had previously given the fullest Assurances to the Governors of all the Ports before which he appeared, that he came thither as a Friend, and with pacifick Intentions; and the taking the *Duke de Ripperda* by force out of my House, are manifest Infractions of Treaties, and of the Law of Nations; these, as also the Violence done to the Kings Consul at *St. Sebastian*, by forcing him to depart from thence and go to *Salamanca*, without the least Pretence for it, which no doubt was done to prevent his getting any Knowledge of the Preparations that were making in those Parts against his Majesty, can be look'd upon no otherwise than as repeated Acts of Hostility. To which must be added, as a new Proof of Hostilities committed against his Majesty's Allies, the Order given the 4th of *October* 1726, to the Dutch Men of War, which were in the Port of *Cadiz*, to depart thence in 24 Hours, without any Reason for such Violence: The Governor having declared besides, that he had Orders not to permit for the future any English or Dutch Ship of War to enter that Port.

As to what you alledge in your foresaid Letter, of Money distributed by the King's Order in *France*, *Holland*, *Sweden*, and *Prussia*, His Majesty is amazed to find, that the Respect due to Powers of that Rank and Figure in *Europe*, has not been able to protect them from so unjust and vile an Aspersions; neither is it to be imagined, how so mean a Piece of Calumny could be offered, as an Answer to the Representation I had made concerning the Remittances publickly made from *Spain* to the Court of *Vienna*; Remittances solicited openly by the Emperor's Ambassador, and demanded by him as Subsidies.

As to the Proceedings of Admiral *Hosier* in the *West-Indies*, of which you complain in your Letter, his Majesty having received no Account of Admiral *Hosier* of any such Transactions as are complain'd of, can say nothing to those Facts; but wonders to see the Court of *Spain* making Complaints of this Nature; when, notwithstanding the frequent Representations which I have made, they have not thought fit to put an End to the Depredations and open Hostilities which have been for

Some time almost daily committed in those Parts by the Spaniards, or to give the King the least Satisfaction for the Damages done to his Subjects, in Violation of all Treaties; Damages so many and so great, that this Treatment from his Catholick Majesty would have sufficiently justified the King's taking the most vigorous Measures for Redress. And certainly, tho' in sending of the Squadron under Admiral Hosier to the West-Indies, a View was had to the protecting of the Commerce and Effects of his Majesty's Subjects; yet, as that Squadron is to remain in those Seas, it is easy to conceive that the further Conduct of Admiral Hosier ought to be regulated by that of Spain.

By this true and impartial State of what has passed between the two Courts, it will appear, not only how much the King my Master has been injured, but how great his Moderation and Love of Peace have been, in forbearing to resent these notorious Infractions of Treaties, the dangerous Projects formed against him and his Dominions, and the Hostilities committed against his Subjects; which gave him certainly full Right, not only to make use of all the Power that God has put into his Hands, but also to call upon his Allies to be ready to make good their Engagements to him, which the present Behaviour and Declarations of the Court of Spain render inevitable.

But as his Majesty, out of a sincere Desire to preserve the publick Peace, has hitherto been contented with putting himself into a Posture of Defence, by making such Armaments by Sea as might effectually secure his Subjects and Dominions from any Insults or Attempts, and prevent the Execution of all such Designs and Projects as threatened the Safety and Interests of his Kingdoms and of his Allies, as well as the general Tranquillity of Europe; his Catholick Majesty may be assured, that if he is disposed to give Satisfaction and Reparation to his Majesty and his Allies, and will remove all the just Causes they have of Complaints and Apprehensions, and renew his former good Correspondence and Confidence with his Majesty and his Allies; his Majesty, in Conjunction with them, is still ready on his Part, to do every thing that can contribute to the Re-establishment of that good Correspondence, which he has always been, and still is desirous to preserve and maintain between the Kingdoms of Great-Britain and Spain.

This is exactly, Sir, what I have been ordered by the King my Master to answer to your foresaid Letter of the 20th of September last.

I am, &c. Wm. Stanhope.

Letter from the Marquess de Pozobueno to the Duke of Newcastle.

1 January, 1727.

London,

21 Dec. 1726.

My Lord,

THE King my Master, after having seen and been fully informed of the Contents of the Letter which Mr. Stanhope wrote the 25th of last Month to the Marquess de la Paz, has been pleased to order me to answer it at this Court, Article by Article, for avoiding all further Ambiguity.

In the acquitting my self then of his Majesty's Orders, I shall have the Honour to acquaint your Excellency, that the King my Master cannot comprehend the Reason of his Britannick Majesty's Surprize, which Mr. Stanhope exaggerates in his Letter, when he was informed of the Contents of that of the Marquess de la Paz of the 30th of September last; it being certain, that his Britannick Majesty could not but know the Orders he had given to Admiral Hoyer, when he sent him with a Squadron of Ships of War to the Indian Seas; in pursuance of which it is to be believed that Admiral executed the Hostilities in Question, which Orders no doubt preceeded and were previous to the Complaints that Mr. Stanhope made in his Memorial to the King my Master the 24th of September; so that his Britannick Majesty had no Cause to be surprized, and on the contrary should not have expected any thing else, than that the King my Master would complain loudly, and demand Satisfaction for so open an Infraction of the Peace, and such manifest Hostilities, as soon as they should come to his Knowledge; especially they having been done at a Time when his Majesty relied entirely on the good Faith of the Treaties which subsisted with England; seeing the King my Master had not made the least Disposition, nor given any Order to his Ministers, and Commanders in the Indies, contrary to the Treaties for the Continuance of the Commerce which is there permitted, granted; nor prevented by Hostilities and reciprocal Ships, suits those which were exercised, and which were not expected.

expected from the said Squadron, as was most clearly demonstrated by the friendly and voluntary Delivery of the licensed Ship to Admiral *Hofier* at *Portobello*, though in Strictness that Ship ought to have stayed till the Gallions had sailed for *Spain*.

As to the Complaints, which had likewise been previously exhibited in Mr. *Stanhope's* Representation of the 24th of *September*, and which were offered as a clear and distinct Explanation of the Reasons which obliged the King of *England* to send out such considerable Armaments to make their Appearance in different Seas; tho' the *Marquess de la Paz* has already answered them fully, and shewn their Insufficiency and the little Ground there is for them, nevertheless I am ordered to satisfy again more precisely on this Point in the Compass of the present Answer, upon the Articles relative to this Subject.

In answering the second Article of Mr. *Stanhope's* Letter, I am to assure, that the King my Master has nothing more at Heart, and wishes nothing so much, as the Peace and Tranquillity of his Dominions, and of all *Europe*; and in Consequence would accept with the most perfect Satisfaction the Protestations which his *Byzannick* Majesty makes of a sincere Ardour to preserve Peace and good Understanding with the Crown of *Spain*, were it possible to combine such amicable Expressions with Insults and Hostilities committed in full Peace.

As to what Mr. *Stanhope* says, in his third Article, of threatening Discourses which the Duke of *Ripperda* might have held at *Vienna*, his Majesty can no way be made responsible for what that Duke (whose hasty and violent Temper is so notorious) may have said in the Warmth of Conversation, perhaps likewise there might be Persons ill-intentioned enough to add to it Things of their own Invention: But as to what was then declared to Mr. *Stanhope* by Word of Mouth and in Writing, that the good Correspondence and Friendship with *England* depended absolutely on the speedy Restitution of *Gibraltar*, I cannot avoid confirming it anew to your Excellency by Order from the King my Master, as a Declaration most justly founded, insisting on that Restitution, after the King of *Great Britain* had on this Point given, as he did give, a positive Promise; besides that on the other hand the Cession which his Majesty made, precariously of that Place, is become null, because of the Infractions made in the Conditions on which it was permitted. The *English* Garrison should remain in Possession

of

of *Gibraltar*; seeing that contrary to all the Protestations made, they have not only extended their Fortifications by exceeding the Limits prescribed and stipulated, but what is more, contrary to the express and literal Tenour of the Treaties, they receive and admit the *Jews* and *Moors*, in the same manner as the *Spaniards*, and other Nations confounded and mixed, contrary to our holy Religion; not to mention the Frauds and continual Contrabands which are carried on there to the Prejudice of his Majesty's Revenues.

Mr. *Stanhope*, in the 5th Article of his Letter, speaks again of the Duke of *Ripperda*, whereupon I repeat, that tho' his Majesty thought fit to reward that Minister by Employments of his Royal Confidence, when he returned from *Vienna* to *Madrid*, in regard to a Peace which the King my Master wished for; and which he had concluded to his Satisfaction; it is not said from thence, that his Majesty ought to answer for that Duke's Discourses and his vain and strange Notions, which at length induced his Majesty, not only to depose him from his Employments, but likewise to secure the Person of a Minister who was as dangerous as culpable.

As to the Duke of *Wharton*, denoted by the anonymous Person who came from *Rome*, it is a notorious and firm Truth, that the King my Master, out of a religious and scrupulous Delicacy, would never admit that that Lord, as all his Court is Witness, nor would know any thing of the Contents of his Credential Letters, nor of the Projects with which it is supposed that Duke was dispatched and sent from *Rome* to *Madrid*: nor can any kind of Consequence be drawn from his having had some Conversations with the Duke of *Ripperda*, because of the little Reflection which it is already said was made thereon; if, after all, that be what Mr. *Stanhope* would have understood by the Ministers of the King with whom the said Duke of *Wharton* treated and conferred.

His Majesty is likewise ignorant of what is offered to be inferred from the *Muscovite* Ships, upon which Mr. *Stanhope* returns to the Charge in his Letter, and what Intelligence or Relation they might have had with the Enemies of his *Britannick* Majesty's Government: knowing nothing more, than that they came into and went out of the Ports of *Spain*, on the same Foot as the Merchant Ships of other Nations frequent them.

Most true it is, that in that Interval of Time, Ships of War were fitted out, and *Ti* were ordered to march.

march to the Coasts of *Biscay* and *Galicia*, because the King my Master found himself obliged to make those Dispositions in Consequence of the certain Advices he received of the Naval Armaments which were preparing with so great Diligence in *England*; it not being natural that his Majesty should leave the Coasts of *Spain* nearest to *England* intirely open, and the Docks at *St. Andero* exposed to be attacked and burnt again.

Mr. *Stanhope*, in his 5th Article, goes on with the Discourses on the Confidence which the Duke of *Ripperda* made to him, as well as to the Ambassador of *Holland* *M. Vander Meer*, of an Offensive Alliance with the Emperor; to which I am to answer, That altho' the King my Master has never explained himself upon that Matter, yet the Falshood of such a Declaration was at first refuted and repelled on the Part of the Imperial Court, by assuring the *English* Minister at *Vienna* of the contrary, and even at the Court of *London* by the Emperor's Minister who actually resides there: For the rest, if the King my Master did not presently separate and remove the Duke of *Ripperda* from his Employments, and even if he did not alledge the false Declaration of a secret Treaty and Offensive Alliance for one of the Causes of his Disgrace, he had well-grounded Reasons for not doing it, with which his Majesty did not think himself obliged to acquaint the Publick.

As to the Company of *Ostend*, which Matter makes the Contents of the 6th, 7th, and 8th Articles of Mr. *Stanhope's* Letter, wherein it is affirmed, without giving any Proof, that the Navigation and Commerce of that Company in the *East-Indies*, are Infractions and Violations of the 5th and 6th Articles of the Treaty of *Munster*, and of several others subsequent and relative to it, it is notorious that his Imperial Majesty always wished to enter into some reasonable Accommodation upon the Commerce of that Company, and that he still actually makes Overtures to the Court of *France*, the King my Master having offered his Mediation, with Design to quiet the Oppositions and Disputes shewn against that Navigation: The States General of the United Provinces would not admit his Majesty's Offer, declaring, without any Reserve, to the Emperor's Minister at the *Hague*, that they would not hearken to nor admit of any Proposition on the Part of his Imperial Majesty, unless before all Things, the Patent granted to the *Ostend* Company were revoked. Wherefore, if that Company has been

been, as Mr. Stanhope says, a Stumbling-Block to Peace, it was that Republick which placed it. For the rest, if his Majesty did declare that he was of a Sentiment contrary to the said Compan^y, at the Time when he was still at War and Enmity with the Emperor, it ought not to be deemed strange or new that he has changed his Opinion, after having made Peace, and united himself with his Imperial Majesty, by the Ties of the most sincere Friendship. Of this the Treaties of Peace furnish us with Examples at every Step, and in these latter Times no Hesitation or Doubt has been made for attaining the Benefit of Peace and Tranquillity, of disposing not only of a single Commerce, but even of whole Kingdoms and States.

As to the refusing Entrance into the Ports of Spain to the Ships of Admiral Jennings's Squadron, and the taking away the Duke of Ripperda by Force, two Points which Mr. Stanhope has touched together in the 9th and 10th Articles, exaggerating them as manifest Infractions of Treaties, and of the Rights of Nations, and that they cannot be looked upon but as Acts of Hostility, as well as the Violence done to the Consul of the British Nation at St. Sebastian, by forcing him to leave it, and go to Salamanca; adding to all this, for a Proof of Hostilities committed against his Britannick Majesty's Allies, the Order given for making the Dutch Ships of War depart the Port of Cadix, and not permitting for the future any English or Dutch Man of War to enter; his Majesty has commanded me to answer thereto in Order: First, That the Refusal to let any Ships of War of Admiral Jennings's Squadron enter the Ports, was most justly founded on the Silence which the said Admiral, as well as Mr. Stanhope, (tho' required) kept, touching the Arrival, Destination and Designs of the said Squadron. An Inattention which the greatest Powers have never shewn to any Sovereign State, how inconsiderable soever; and therefore the entertaining of violent Suspicions and Apprehensions could not be avoided, seeing the pacifick and amicable Assurances given by Admiral Jennings to the Governors of the Ports, who have no Authority to judge of them, to admit them or to rely upon them, could at best take Place only in certain unexpected Cases, and on Occasions where at the Sight of the evident Danger of a Ship which should implore Shelter in a Port, the Governors might judge what was proper to be done; but as for a Squadron of Ships of War, which it was notori-

rious had been fitted out and sent with Land-Forces, on a known and premeditated Design, such particular Assurances to Governors for entering Ports on the frivolous Pretext of watering and taking in Provisions, so few Days after they had come out of their own Ports, are more than suspicious, and may be termed injurious between two Powers who are at Peace, and who have actually their Ministers in their respective Courts, by whose Means a frank Declaration might and ought to have been sent of the Destination and Designs of such an Armament, even before Admiral Jennings appeared on the Coasts of Spain.

As to the taking away of the Duke of *Ripperda*, the King my Master made known, more than he thought he was obliged to do, to all the foreign Ministers who were then at his Court, the Motives and Circumstances of that Step, incontestable with his Right and Royal Authority; so that it cannot be considered as an Infraction of the Rights of Nations, from the Time his Majesty had declared, after a full Cognisance and Advice of the Royal Council of *Castile* had preceded, that the Duke of *Ripperda* was guilty of High Treason, and consequently incapable of enjoying any Immunity or Sanctuary whatsoever.

As to the pretended Violence with which Mr. *Stanhope* says the Consul whom his *Britannick* Majesty designed for *St. Sebastian*, was forced to leave it and retire to *Salamanca*, Mr. *Stanhope* knows very well, that no Consul, of what Nation soever, is admitted, till previously he has obtained the King's Consent and Cedula of Appointment, even in the Ports where there are established Consuls; but in that of *St. Sebastian*, besides the fore-mentioned Reason, there is another yet stronger, for neither the *English* Nation nor any other have ever enjoyed the Right or obtained the Usage of having a Consul in the Province of *Guipuscoa*; so that, not only it ought not to be thought strange that such a Consul was refused Admission, and that he was ordered to retire elsewhere; but likewise his Majesty might justly resent, that on this Occasion the same thing is alledged that has been on others, the having given Exclusion to Consuls of the *British* Nation in the same Quarter, and that the same Papers are offered him again.

What Mr. *Stanhope* finally adds, about the Order given at *Cadiz*, for making the Dutch Men of War depart that Port, and not permitting for the future any *English* or Dutch

Dutch Ship of War to enter it, was and is intirely justified by what has already been signified above, in speaking of the Ships of the Squadron commanded by Admiral *Jennings*; and the States General ought not to be surprized at this Novelty, it being so natural that they should be treated without any Difference from the *English*, after their Accession to the Treaty of *Hanover*.

Mr. *Stanhope* in the 11th Article of his Letter grows warm and explains himself with some Passion upon what the *Marquess de la Paz* intimated to him in his Letter of the 30th of *September* last, with respect to Money distributed in *Holland*, in *Sweden*, and in *Prussia*; and, it not being a new thing, or unworthy a Prince or State to give or receive Money in Return for the Services done each other, it cannot be thought the *Marquess de la Paz* had an Intention to blame Mr. *Stanhope* for it, nor to complain of it by Order of the King my Master; but only to answer Mr. *Stanhope* as to the Account he would ask of his Majesty, on the Part of the King of *Great-Britain*, touching the Subsidies sent to the Emperor.

When Mr. *Stanhope* tells the *Marquess de la Paz* in the 12th Article, that respectively on the Conduct of Admiral *Hofier* in the *West-Indies* he could give no Answer, because his *Britannick* Majesty had not yet received any Advice of the least thing among those which gave ground to the Complaint of the King my Master, he did not remember probably what he had said to the *Marquess de la Paz* the 23d of *October*, the Court being at the *Escorial*, how he had received Order by an Express to communicate to his Majesty the Operations of the Squadron commanded by Admiral *Hofier* in the *Indies*, but that he had not hastened to do it, knowing the King my Master was already informed of them directly; wherefore it cannot well be conceived, for what Reason his *Britannick* Majesty should be so much surprized at *Spain's* forming Complaints of such a Nature. The King my Master was more justly surprized, that such glaring Hostilities should be pretended to be justified, by the Pretext that Justice has not been done upon the repeated Complaints of Mr. *Stanhope*, with respect to so many *English* Ships which 'tis exaggerated have been taken and pillaged by the *Guarda Costas* of his Majesty in the *Indies*, it being evident that no specifick Case of any such Prizes has yet been seen. What is certain, is, that *English* Ships and others of other Nations, which have been attacked and taken in those Seas, were Contraband and good Prize,

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because of the unlawful Commerce they exercised or endeavoured to exercise in the *Indies*: The very Places only where they were met and taken, is a sufficient Proof of a Navigation forbid by the Tenour of Treaties: It is therefore necessary to believe that the Stay of Admiral *Hofier* in the *Indies*, has no other View than to protect a prohibited and contraband Commerce, and so contrary to what has been so solemnly stipulated and treated; for as to lawful and allowed Commerce, his Majesty has hitherto let the *English* Nation enjoy with all Safety the notorious Advantages and Preferences with which the King my Master had distinguished them from all other Nations, tho' on that Side that Benefit has likewise been abused, by the extending it there much beyond the Concessions stipulated.

The longer Stay of the *English* Squadron in those Seas, will therefore be a Continuance of voluntary Hostilities authorized by his *Britannick* Majesty, and as such, the King my Master does already and will look upon them.

After all that has been said, it remains only to make a Comparison between the Force, which laboured Pretexts and groundless Suspicions may have, and real and direct Hostilities, with the Continuance of which we are still threatened: By this Examination, a Judgment may be formed of the Sincerity and Impartiality of what has been exhibited by Mr. *Stanhope*. All reasonable and indifferent Persons will see and acknowledge, that it is the King my Master who is attacked contrary to all Reason and Justice, and who already actually suffers such notorious Prejudices, by the Hindrance given to the Fair of *Panama*, and to the Return of his Armaments of the Flota and Gallcons, in which the *English* Nation it self, with all others who are interested in the Course of that Commerce, suffer jointly with his Majesty's Subjects the great Damages resulting from the Delay of those Returns.

The King my Master thinks himself justified before God and Man, to repel these Injuries and Hostilities with all the Power that the Divine Goodness and Providence has put into his Hands; and to have a Right to require of his Allies the Succours they are engaged to furnish.

His Majesty, who, with no less Ardour and Sincerity than his Allies, has always desired the Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe*, would be satisfied with the Expre-

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sions with which Mr. *Stanhope* concludes his Letter on the same Desires and Inclinations of his *Britannick Majesty*, whenever the Words should have the least Shadow of Relation with the Facts. The King my Master protests and assures, that he has never done nor sought to do any Wrong to the *English Nation*; and that all the Designs imputed to him against his *Britannick Majesty* and his Dominions, are invented, and without his Knowledge. But his Majesty declares likewise at the same time, that in the violent State to which Things are at last reduced by the Ministry of *England*, he neither can nor will hearken any more to any Complaint, Instance, or Accommodation, while his *Britannick Majesty* shall be with Arms in Hand in the Dominions of his Majesty, as he is effectually with one Squadron on the Coasts and Seas of *Spain*, and with another in those of the *Indies*, and while Hostilities are continued in the said Dominions, as is threaten'd by the longer Stay of the *English Squadron* in the Seas of *America*, especially when it is notorious that for reinforcing the said Squadron four other Ships of War are fitting out in *England*, and two others for that which is in the Seas and on the Coasts of *Spain*.

I have the Honour to be with the most perfect Consideration,
My Lord,

Your Excellency's most humble
and most obedient Servant,

De POZO BUENO.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

Proceedings of the fifth Session of the sixth Parliament of Great-Britain, in the thirteenth Year of the Reign of King George.

ON the 17th of January his Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Sir *William Sanderson*, Gentleman-Usher of the Black-Rod, was sent with a Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, his Majesty was pleased (by the Mouth of the Lord High-

High Chancellor) to make the following most gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Acquainted you last Year with the Treaties of Peace and Commerce concluded between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*. As that sudden and unaccountable Conjunction gave, at the first Appearance, just Grounds of Jealousy and Apprehension to the neighbouring Powers of *Europe*, the subsequent Proceedings and Transactions in those two Courts, and the Secret and Offensive Alliances concluded between them about the same time, have laid the Foundations of a most exorbitant and formidable Power, and are so directly levelled against the most valuable and darling Interests and Privileges of this Nation, that we must determine either tamely to submit to the peremptory and unjust Demands of the King of *Spain*, in giving up *Gibraltar*, and patiently to acquiesce in the Emperor's usurped and extended Exercise of Trade and Commerce, or must resolve to be in a Condition to do our selves Justice, and to defend our undoubted Rights against these reciprocal Engagements enter'd into, in Defiance and Violation of all National Faith, and the most solemn Treaties.

I have likewise received Information from different Parts, on which I can entirely depend, that the placing the Pretender upon the Throne of this Kingdom is one of the Articles of the secret Engagements; and if Time shall evince, that the giving up the Trade of this Nation to one Power, and *Gibraltar* and *Port-Mahon* to another, is made the Price and Reward of imposing upon this Kingdom a Popish Pretender, what an Indignation must this raise in the Breast of every Protestant Briton!

Nor were these fatal Combinations confined to those Parts of the World alone, but they extended themselves into *Russia*; and had not the Designs of that Court against some of their Neighbours been prevented by the seasonable Arrival of our Fleet in those Seas, a Way had been open'd for invading these Kingdoms, and giving a powerful Assistance to any Attempt to be made from other Quarters.

Such Circumstances would not suffer Me and my Allies, among whom there has been, and is the most perfect Harmony, Union, and Concert, to be idle Spectators, and regardless of our own Safety, and the Common Cause of *Europe*; for which purpose his most Christian Majesty

Majesty has been at a great Expence, this last Year, in augmenting his Forces; and the States General, sensible of the imminent Danger, have not only acceded to the Defensive Alliance concluded at *Hanover*, but have come to strong and seasonable Resolutions for an extraordinary Augmentation of their Forces both by Sea and Land. The Accession of the Crown of *Sweden* is in such a Forwardness, and the Negotiations with the Crown of *Denmark* are so far advanced, that we may reasonably depend upon the Success and good Effect of them.

This short view of the present Posture of Affairs will, I am confident, not only secure to Me the Support and Assistance of my Parliament, in carrying on this great and necessary Work, in Conjunction with my Allies; but justify the Measures hitherto taken, and the Expences already made.

The Confidence you reposed in Me last Year, has been made use of for the Benefit of the Publick; and as the chief Article of Exceeding has, by my equipping, and sending to Sea, three considerable Squadrons, fallen upon the Head of the Navy, I am persuaded the Necessity of the Services, and the Security, Advantage, and Glory that has accrued to this Nation from those Squadrons, will sufficiently speak for themselves, as long as both Friends and Foes, with Joy, or Concern, confess they have seen and felt the Effects of the Naval Power of *Great-Britain*.

It is not to be wonder'd at, that the Princes engaged in these Enterprizes, are very much disturbed to see their Projects render'd abortive: The King of *Spain*, impatient of the Disappointments he has met with, can no longer disguise that Enmity to Us, which for some time he has only waited for a favourable Opportunity to declare. He has now ordered his Minister residing here, to depart immediately from this Country, leaving a Memorial, that is little short of a Declaration of War, wherein he again demands and insists upon the Restitution of *Gibraltar*. He does not himself deny the Offensive Alliance, nor his Engagements to support the *Ostend* Company: He makes my recalling those Squadrons, which his Conduct had put Me under a Necessity of sending to the *West-Indies*, and the Coast of *Spain*, the Condition of any further Correspondence between the two Crowns; and supposing the Continuance of my Fleets abroad to be actual Hostilities, threatens to repel them with Force, to the utmost of his Power.

But

But not content with these Menaces, Insults, and Infractions of Treaties, his Catholick Majesty is now making Preparations to attack and besiege *Gibraltar*; and in order to carry on that Service, or to cover another Design, has assembled a great Body of Troops in that Neighbourhood: But as the present State and Condition of that Garrison, with the Reinforcements I have ordered thither, give Me little Cause to apprehend, or my Enemies to hope for Success in that Undertaking, the certain and undoubted Intelligence I have, that it is now resolved to attempt an Invasion upon these Kingdoms in Favour of the Pretender, by an Embarkation from the Coasts of *Spain*, gives Me reason to believe, that tho' the Siege of *Gibraltar* may probably be undertaken, the publick, avowed, and immense Preparations made for that purpose, are chiefly calculated to amuse the World, and to disguise the intended Invasion, which I am surely informed has been for some time agreed to be the first Step and Beginning of the long premeditated Rupture.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

These Considerations must awaken in you all such a Sense of our common and immediate Danger, as will, I doubt not, inspire you with a Zeal and Chearfulness in raising the Supplies necessary for the Defence of your Country, and for making good our Engagements with our Allies.

I received too much Satisfaction from the Happiness of my People, in their full Enjoyment and future Prospect of Peace, Ease, and Prosperity, not to be sensibly affected with these new Convulsions, and the unavoidable Necessity I am under, of asking larger Supplies of my People, and of desiring to be enabled to make such an Augmentation of my Forces, by Sea and Land, as the present Exigency of Affairs requires.

I will order the proper Estimates to be laid before you, and such Treaties as I have made with Foreign Princes for the Hire of Foreign Troops; and as the Expence I was last Year in a particular Manner intrusted to make, has amounted to no considerable Sum, and the publick Utility may again require the like Services to be performed, I hope you will again repose the same Trust and Confidence in Me.

It is with great Pleasure that I see the Time, so near approaching, when such a considerable Addition will be made

made to the Sinking Fund: Let all that wish well to the Peace and Quiet of my Government, have the Satisfaction to see, that our present Necessities shall make no Interruption in the Progress of that desirable Work, of gradually discharging the National Debt: I hope therefore you will make a Provision for the immediate Application of the Produce of the Sinking Fund to the Uses for which it was so wisely contrived, and to which it stands now appropriated.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have had no Thoughts of making any Acquisitions to any Parts of my Dominions; my whole Care and Concern has been to preserve and maintain the undoubted Rights and Privileges of my People; and therefore all my Measures have been Preventive and Defensive: But such Endeavours being now render'd impracticable, vigorous Resolutions, and a speedy Execution of them, can alone put an effectual End to the Dangers that surround us. However hazardous and desperate the Enterprizes formed against us, may appear to be, your being assured that they are resolved upon, will, I am persuaded, be sufficient to prevail upon you, to put yourselves in a Condition to resist and defeat them.

If preserving a due Ballance of Power in Europe, if defending the Possessions of the Crown of Great-Britain, of infinite Advantage and Security to our Trade and Commerce, if supporting that Trade and Commerce against dangerous and unlawful Encroachments; and if the present Establishment, the Religion, Liberties, and Properties of a Protestant People, are any longer Considerations worthy of the Care and Attention of a British Parliament, I need say no more to incite my Loyal and Faithful Houses of Parliament to exert themselves in the Defence of all that is dear and valuable to them.

The King being withdrawn, the Lords resolv'd to present an Address of Thanks to his Majesty, which being immediately drawn up, reported and agreed to, was, next Day (*January 18th.*) presented by the whole House to his Majesty, as follows, viz.

Address of the House of Lords to the King.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to return your Majesty our hearty Thanks for your Majesty's most Gra-

clous Speech from the Throne. We cannot but esteem our selves in Duty bound most humbly and gratefully to acknowledge your Majesty's exceeding Goodness, in opening to your Parliament a Scene of the highest Importance to this Kingdom. The World now must be convinced, that the Courts of *Vienna* and *Madrid* have laid the Foundations of such an exorbitant and formidable Power, as may, in time, overturn the Balance, and destroy the Liberties of *Europe*. Were we not filled with the deepest Resentment at the Indignities which have been offered to your Majesty, we should be unworthy of all the Blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's most Gracious and Excellent Government. The Invasions made upon the Rights and Privileges of your People, in the most important Branches of their Commerce; the Menaces and Insults used towards your Majesty; the peremptory Demand of the Restitution of *Gibraltar*, which Place, and the Island of *Mihorca*, both being of the utmost Consequence to your People, were yielded up by the present King of *Spain* himself, and do indisputably belong to the Crown of *Great-Britain* by most solemn Treaties: But above all, the Engagements enter'd into for placing a Popish Pretender upon your Throne, must raise the warmest Indignation in all those who have the least Sense of their Duty to the best of Sovereigns, and any Regard to the Protestant Religion, to the Honour, Interest, and Prosperity of their Country. We are truly sensible of the wise Measures taken by your Majesty for preventing the Dangers which threatned us; your early Care in forming and entering into the Defensive Alliance, to which the Accession of the States General has added so great Weight; the establishing a perfect Harmony, Union, and Concert between your Majesty, the most Christian King, and the States General; the several Negotiations which your Majesty, in Conjunction with your Allies, is carrying on with *Sweden*, *Denmark*, and other Powers; and the shewing the Power and Influence of your Naval Force, by the seasonable Equipment of three considerable Squadrons, are the apparent Causes to which, next under God, we owe the Preservation of the Publick Peace, and the preventing the Execution of those destructive and unjust Designs that had been formed against this Nation, and the Liberties of *Europe*. The very great Satisfaction your Majesty is graciously pleas'd to express at the Happiness of your People, in their full Enjoyment

ment of Peace, Ease, and Prosperity; your tender Concern, for their sake, at the Prospect of any new Com-motions, and your continual Care every where to pre-serve and maintain the undoubted Rights and Privileges of all your Subjects, cannot but fill their Hearts with the most grateful Sense of their Duty, and raise in them the utmost Detestation and Contempt of the vain Imagination of placing a Popish Pretender on the Throne. We do therefore, at this important Juncture, most hum-bly beg leave to assure your Majesty of our steady and unshaken Fidelity, and that nothing shall ever divert or deter us from making our strongest Efforts, for maintain-ing your Majesty's undoubted Right and Title to the Crown of this Realm, and for preserving our present happy Establishment: And we beseech your Majesty to believe, that we will, to the utmost of our Power, ena-ble your Majesty to make good all your Engagements with your Allies, and to preserve the Trade of this Kingdom in its utmost Extent; to vindicate your Ho-nour, and to assert and defend your Right to *Gibraltar*, and the Island of *Minorca*, which are of the greatest Im-portance to the Preservation of the Commerce and Naval Strength of *Great-Britain*; and to maintain your Right to every other Part of your Dominions, against all At-tempts whatsoever; and that we shall, at all times, be ready to concur in such proper Measures, as may effec-tually enable your Majesty, in Conjunction with your Allies, to bring to Reason all such Powers, as shall at any time disturb the general Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe*.

His Majesty's most Gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I Thank you heartily for this very Dutiful and Loyal Ad-dress; your warm Concern for maintaining my Honour, and the Rights of my Crown, and for preserving the Trade of this Kingdom, is a fresh and very seasonable Instance of your Love to your Country, as well as of your Duty and Af-fection to me.

Your Approbation of the several Measures I have taken for preserving the Publick Peace and Tranquillity, and se-curing the Rights and Privileges of my People against all Usurpations, gives me great Satisfaction.

I entirely depend on the many faithful and affectionate As-surances you have given me in this Address: You may as ab-solutely depend on my constant Endeavours to promote the Happiness of all my People.

The Day before, the Commons being return'd to their House, and Mr. *Speaker* having reported his Majesty's Speech, Mr. *Onslow* moved, ' That an Humble Address be presented to his Majesty, to return him the Thanks of this House for his most gracious Speech from the Throne; to acknowledge his Majesty's Goodness, in acquainting his Parliament with the several Proceedings and Alliances entred into between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, giving such just Cause of Jealousy to the Neighbouring Princes and States, so formidable and destructive of the true Balance of Power in *Europe*, and striking at the Foundation of the most valuable Privileges and Interests of the Subjects of his Majesty, and those of his Allies: To declare the Resentment of the Commons of *Great-Britain*, at the unjust Demand of the King of *Spain* for the Reslitution of *Gibraltar*, and the unwarrantable Usurpation of the Emperor, in erecting and carrying on the *Ostend* Trade, and their mutual Obligations to support each other in these unjustifiable Attempts and Undertakings: But above all, to express our highest Indignation at the Resolutions and Engagements entred into, for attempting to place the Pretender on the Throne of these Kingdoms: To return his Majesty the Thanks of this House, for his great Care in strengthening his Alliances, and for employing his Royal Fleet so usefully for the Security, Advantage and Glory of this Nation. And as this House cannot but look upon the Measures and Resolutions, taken in Opposition to and in Defiance of most solemn Treaties, as tending to an immediate Rupture; humbly to desire his Majesty, that He will forthwith give the necessary Orders for putting this Kingdom in a Posture of Defence; and to assure his Majesty, that this House will not only cheerfully and effectually raise the Supplies necessary for the present Exigency of Affairs, but will stand by and support his Majesty in making good his Engagements with his Allies; in preserving the Balance of Power in *Europe*; in defending the Possessions of the Crown of *Great-Britain*; in supporting the Trade of this Nation against all unjustifiable Encroachments; and in defeating and confounding all Attempts that shall be made in favour of the Pretender, and to the Destruction of our Religion, Liberties, and Properties; and that this House will apply the Produce of the Sinking Fund to its proper Uses; and repose such a

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Trust and Confidence in his Majesty, as the publick Utility shall require, and his Majesty shall find reasonable and necessary, for carrying on the great Work in which his Majesty is engaged, for the Interest and Security of his People, and the common Cause of Europe.

This Motion was seconded by the Honourable Mr. John Finch, and back'd by some other Members; but was strenuously oppos'd, by Mr. Shippen, Sir William Windham, Mr. Hungerford, the Right Hon. Mr. William Pulteney, and Sir Thomas Hanmer; who were answer'd, chiefly, by Mr. Doddington, Mr. Horatio Walpole, and the Right Honourable Sir Robert Walpole, so that the Debate lasted from two a Clock in the Afternoon, till past eight in the Evening. The main Objections in general were, That the Matter of Peace and War is of the greatest Weight that can fall under the Consideration of that Assembly; That as his Majesty's Speech contain'd many Points of the highest Moment and Importance, so no doubt, his Majesty, in his great Wisdom and Goodness towards his People, expected, on this Occasion, not only the Support, but likewise the Advice of that House: That, in order thereto, they ought maturely to deliberate on those several Heads, which could not be done before several Papers were communicated to them, that seem'd absolutely necessary to state some Facts relating to those weighty Matters: That the Motion, as it was drawn up, imply'd an Approbation of Measures taken to prevent Dangers; which seem'd preposterous before they knew either what those Measures were, or whether those Dangers were real. That therefore they ought, for the present, to content themselves with returning his Majesty the most humble Thanks of the House for his most gracious Speech, with Assurances of supporting his Majesty, in all just and necessary Measures; and appoint a Day for taking the said Speech into Consideration.

A Gentleman, in particular, took Notice of the Unsteadiness of our Counsels, urging, That of late Years our Measures had been in a perpetual Fluctuation; That *Penelope*-like, we were continually weaving and unweaving the same Web; one time raising up the Emperor to depress *France*, and now we were for depressing the Emperor, which could not be done without aggrandizing *France*, which, in the end, may make

“ make the latter too powerful : So that at this rate, under Pretence of holding the Balance of *Europe*, we should be engaged in continual Wars.

Another said, “ That the Dangers with which we were threaten’d, were not, in his Opinion, so great, as they were by some People represented to be : That the *Czarina’s* and the King of *Spain’s* Design of invading us with five or six Men of War, seem’d altogether romantick, since such a Project, may, at any time, be defeated by our ordinary Guard-Ships, much more when we had such strong Fleets at Sea : That therefore the Fears of the Pretender were groundless and chimerical, and he could not tell how they could bring him over, unless *They borrowed Captain Gulliver’s floating Island*. As to the *Offend Company*, he owned it to be a National Concern, and a very just Motive to a War with the Emperor ; but that it had been an easy Matter to nip that Project in the Bud : For, if he was rightly inform’d, ten Thousand Pounds would have prevail’d with the *Marquess de Prié* to drop it, whereas now, when that Company has had time to get Footing both in *Europe* and in *India*, it may prove a difficult Matter to suppress it. That as to *Gibraltar*, the Demand of which was alledg’d as a Proof of an Offensive Alliance between the Emperor and *Spain*, he had in his Pocket the Purport of the secret Article relating to that Affair, which was only, That in case the King of *Spain* could produce a positive Promise from Great-Britain to restore *Gibraltar*, his Imperial Majesty would engage to become a Mediator and Guarantee for the Performance of such a Promise. That upon the whole Matter he hoped Things were not yet brought to so desperate an Issue, but that some Means of Accommodation might be found out, without running into an expensive War, and augmenting our Forces, which, he was afraid, would prove an Aggravation of Crimes.

A Third Gentleman said, “ That if the Dangers they were threaten’d with, were so real and so imminent as some People pretended, he would be one of the foremost in the most speedy and most vigorous Resolutions. But that he thought those Dangers yet extream distant, to say no more — That, indeed, some Foreign-Princes may make a political Use of the Pretender, as a *State Bug-Bear* to frighten and alarm us, and thereby endeavour to make us subservient to their

ambitious Designs; but that, in his Opinion, his Interest was never so low, nor his Party so inconsiderable and so despicable, as at present, and, therefore in this Day's Debate, he ought to be left intirely out of the Question. That he was apprehensive the Acquisition of some Dominions abroad had sown the Seeds, and were the true Causes of the Divisions and Distractions, which now threaten the general Tranquillity of Europe, by drawing us into unaccountable Compliances for the Emperor, on the one hand, and into a Promise, at least a *Conditional* one, for the Restitution of *Gibraltar* on the other hand: Both which had brought us at last into the present Difficulties, &c. &c.

To these it was answer'd in general, That the Eyes of all *Christendom*, were, at this critical Juncture, fix'd upon the *British* Parliament, whose Resolutions had ever a great and just Weight and Influence in all the Affairs of *Europe*: And the Season of the Year being so far advanced, they ought not to slip the first Opportunity that offer'd to give his Majesty the strongest Assurances of supporting him in all the Engagements he had enter'd into with his Allies, and in the Measures, that shall be judg'd necessary, for securing the Rights and Interests of his Subjects, and the common Cause of *Europe*. That Delays were often dangerous, and might be fatal in the present Situation of Affairs, which required vigorous and speedy Resolutions, both for the Encouragement of our Friends, and the perfecting some Alliances, that were already in great Forwardness; and for the Discouragement of our Enemies, who had already block'd up *Gibraltar*, and threaten'd it with a Siege. That the Measures that had been taken, were but a Consequence of the last Year's Resolutions, which that House had come to, after a full Examination, and mature Consideration of the State of Affairs, then laid before both Houses by his Majesty: But that however, such an Address as was proposed, did not preclude a farther Inquiry into those Matters.

That as to the Unsteadiness of our Counsels, it had often been Matter of Complaint; but that it was the unavoidable Result of our Situation, which puts on the Necessity, and, at the same Time, gives us the Prerogative of holding the Balance of Power in *Europe*. But that besides the preserving of that Balance, which was in great Danger of being destroyed by the Conjunction.

‘ junction of the Emperor and King of Spain, and the
‘ Intermarriages of their Issue, we had an intimate and
‘ immediate Concern in maintaining our invaluable
‘ Rights and Privileges of Commerce, which had been
‘ notoriously invaded; and in defending our Possessions
‘ of Gibraltar and the Island of Minorca, which we had
‘ acquired, in lawful War, at a vast Expence of Blood
‘ and Treasure, and which had been yielded to us by
‘ several solemn Treaties.

‘ As to the *Promise of Restoring Gibraltar* to the King
‘ of Spain, a Gentleman in a very high Station, said,
‘ That such a Promise not having been made, while he
‘ had the Honour to be in the Administration, he could
‘ say nothing to it: That if such a Promise was ever
‘ made, he durst aver, That it was Conditional, and made
‘ void and invalid by the King of Spain’s refusing to
‘ comply with the Conditions on which it was made;
‘ and that whenever the Performance of that Promise
‘ was mention’d to him, as insisted on by the King of
‘ Spain, he always delivered it as his fix’d and positive
‘ Opinion, That Gibraltar could not be given up without
‘ the Consent of Parliament. As to the *Ostend Company*,
‘ which a Gentleman suggested, might have been nipp’d
‘ in the Bud; he left it to the House to judge, Whe-
‘ ther it had not been highly imprudent and impolitick
‘ in us, to quarrel with the Emperor about it, before
‘ we had engaged in the Danger and Expence of that
‘ Quarrel, both France and Holland, who have, at least,
‘ an equal Concern with us, in the Suppressing of the
‘ *Ostend Trade*.

‘ As to the Danger of an Invasion in favour of the
‘ Pretender, such early Measures had been taken to de-
‘ feat it, that he hoped by this Time, it was pretty
‘ well over: But that besides the glaring Appearances
‘ of Enmity to his Majesty, and of Favour and Coun-
‘ tenance to the Pretender’s Friends, at the Courts of
‘ Vienna and Madrid, his Majesty had such undoubted
‘ and concurring Evidence of a form’d Design to invade
‘ his Dominions, that it had been the most unpardon-
‘ able Want of Duty, and a Criminal Supineness in his
‘ Ministers, not to take all possible Precautions against
‘ it. And, in Conclusion, as to any Measures that had
‘ been taken many Years ago, and to which another
‘ Gentleman ascribed the Convulsions which now
‘ threaten the Tranquillity of Europe; he was not at all
‘ concern’d in those Measures, and so could say nothing
‘ to

to them; neither were, indeed, such remote, and, he might say, groundless Causes, a proper Subject for their present Consideration.

This is the main Substance of what was offer'd on both Sides, on this Occasion, and about Eight of the Clock in the Evening, the Question being put upon Mr. Osborn's Motion, it was carry'd in the Affirmative, by a Majority of 251 Voices against 81, and a Committee was appointed to draw up an Address accordingly, which being the next Day reported and agreed to, was on Thursday the 19th of January, presented by the whole House to his Majesty, as follows:

Address of the House of Commons to the King.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humblest Thanks for your most Gracious Speech from the Throne.

The Communication which your Majesty has been pleased to make, of the Proceedings and Transactions in Europe for some Time past, and of the Engagements entered into between the Emperor and the King of Spain, is an Instance of your Majesty's singular Goodness, in being as desirous to give your People all reasonable Satisfaction, as you have ever been solicitous for their Good and Welfare.

We are very sensible of the fatal Tendency of the sudden and unaccountable Conjunction between those two Crowns; and as this Nation has always looked with jealous Eyes upon the very Beginning of every Attempt made by their Neighbours to establish a Commerce, at ~~the~~ and to the Prejudice of our undoubted Rights and Privileges. We cannot but be greatly alarmed to see these Incroachments upon our Trade, and notorious Infractions of Treaties, accompany'd with a Scheme of Greatness that lays the Foundation of a most Exorbitant Power, which, if not timely opposed, and withstood with Vigour and Resolution, may become formidable to all Europe, and enable the Aggressors, without Controul, to maintain their unwarrantable Attempts.

Nor can we at all doubt of the Spirit and Design of this new Friendship and Alliance, when we see it cemented by mutual Obligations for supporting one of the

Contrasting Powers in the unjustifiable and usurped Exercise of the *Ostend* Trade, at the same Time that a peremptory Demand is made and insisted upon, by the other, for the Restitution of *Gibraltar*, a Place of such Importance to the Trade of this Kingdom.

But the Consideration that creates the highest Resentment in your faithful Commons is, to see that whenever the Ambition of Foreign Princes leads them to aspire and grasp at exorbitant Power, or to acquire and possess themselves of any valuable Rights and Privileges belonging to the Subjects of your Majesty and your Allies, all Guarantees, and the most solemn Engagements of Faith and Gratitude to your Majesty, purchased by the Blood and Treasure of this Nation, are cancelled and forgot; and it is vainly imagined that your Majesty must either tamely submit, and patiently acquiesce, under the greatest Indignities and Injuries to your Crown and People, or be insulted with Menaces and Projects in favour of a *Papish* Pretender.

But your Majesty's loyal, faithful, and affectionate Subjects, the Commons of *Great-Britain*, sensible of the inestimable Blessings they enjoy under your Majesty's most gracious and happy Government, have too great a regard to the Honour and Dignity of your Crown, and too much Abhorrence and Detestation of the abjured Pretender, to suffer these vain Terrors to have any ill Effect upon their Minds or Deliberations.

It is with Indignation that we see this injurious Treatment, and these provoking Insults; and it is with an unshaken Fidelity and Resolution, that we are determined, with our Lives and Fortunes, to stand by and support your Majesty against all your Enemies.

We must, at the same time, with all Gratitude acknowledge your Majesty's Wisdom and Vigilance, in strengthening your self with the Alliance of ~~Princes~~ united in Interest, and best able to withstand the impending Danger, and to support the Common Cause of *Europe*.

We see, with the greatest Satisfaction, the Naval Power of *Great-Britain* appearing in distant Regions, in its proper Lustre, so usefully and wisely employed to carry Safety and Protection to your own Subjects and to your Allies, and to curb and restrain the boasted Projects of the Disturbers of the Peace of *Europe*.

And as we cannot but look upon the Measures and Resolutions concerted and taken in Opposition to, and in

in Defiance of the most solemn Treaties, as tending to an immediate Rupture: We humbly beseech your Majesty, that you will be pleas'd forthwith to give the necessary Orders for putting this Kingdom into a Posture of Defence; and we assure your Majesty, That we will not only cheerfully and effectually raise the Supplies necessary for the present Exigency of Affairs, but will support your Majesty in making good your Engagements with your Allies, in preserving the Balance of Power in Europe, in defending the present Possessions of the Crown of Great-Britain, in supporting the Trade of this Nation against all unjustifiable and pernicious Incroachments, and in defeating and confounding all Attempts that shall be made in Favour of the Pretender, and for the Destruction of our Religion, Liberties, and Properties.

And that all, who wish well to the Peace and Quiet of your Majesty's Government, may have the Satisfaction to see, that our present Necessities shall make no Interruption in the Progress of that desirable Work, of gradually discharging the National Debt, we will consider of the most proper Methods for immediately applying the Produce of the Sinking Fund to the Uses for which it was so wisely contrived, and to which it stands now appropriated; and will repose such a Trust and Confidence in your Majesty as the publick Utility shall require, and as your Majesty shall find reasonable and necessary for carrying on the great Work in which your Majesty is engaged, for the Interest and Security of your People, and the common Cause of Europe.

To this Address his Majesty was pleas'd to return the following most gracious Answer, viz.

Gentlemen,

I Return you my Thanks for this very Dutiful and Loyal Address: The just Sense you have express'd of the present Posture of Affairs in Europe, and the hearty Assurances you have given me of your Support in defending my Possessions, and the Rights and Privileges of my People, as they are Evidences of your known Zeal and Affection to my Person and Government, I am perswaded they will confirm the Spirit and Vigour of my Allies, and convince my Enemies how vain and ill-grounded all their Expectations are, of being able to succeed in any Attempts to disturb the Peace of Europe, and in offering Injuries and Insults to this Nation.

Let us now attend the further Proceedings of the Commons during this Month.

On the 17th, after the Appointing of the five grand Committees, and the making of other Customary Orders, Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrants for nine new Writs, viz.

1. For a Burgeſs for *Tamworth*, in the Counties of *Warwick* and *Stafford*, in the Room of *Richard Swynfen*, Esq; deceased.

2. A Knight of the Shire for the County of *York*, in the Room of *Sir Arthur Kaye*, Bart. deceased.

3. A Burgeſs for the Borough of *Fowey* in *Cornwall*, in the Room of *Nicholas Vincent*, Esq; deceased.

4. For a Citizen for the City of *Gloucester*, in the Room of *John Snell*, Esq; deceased.

5. A Burgeſs for the Borough of *Petersfield* in the County of *Southampton*, in the Room of *Edmund Miller* Serjeant at Law, who had accepted the Office of one of the Barons of the Exchequer in *Scotland*.

6. A Burgeſs for the Borough of *Malden* in *Effex*, in the Room of *Sir John Comyns*, Knight, now one of the Barons of the Exchequer.

7. A Burgeſs for the Borough of *Weymouth*, and *Melcomb Regis* in *Dorsetshire*, in the Room of *Thomas Pearse*, Esq; now one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy.

8. A Burgeſs for the Borough of *Lestwithiel* in *Cornwall*, in the Room of *Henry Parsons*, Esq; now one of the Commissioners for the Victualling his Majesty's Navy.

9. And a Burgeſs for the Borough of *Hertford* in the County of *Hertsford*, in the Room of *Edward Harrison*, Esq; now one of the Commissioners for executing the Office of Post-Master-General.

The next Day, Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrants for four other new Writs, viz.

1. For a Burgeſs for *Dorseton* in *Wiltshire*, in the Room of the Honourable *John Ferney*, Esq; now second Justice for the Counties of *Glamorgan*, *Brecon* and *Radnor* in *Wales*.

2. A Burgeſs for the Town of *Cardiff* in the County of *Glamorgan*, in the Room of *Edward Stradling*, Esq; deceased.

3. A Knight of the Shire for the County of *Dorset*, in the Room of *Thomas Strangeways*, Esq; deceased.

4. And a Burgeſs for *Bodmyn* in *Cornwall*, in the Room of *Richard Webb*, Esq; deceased.

On Thursday the 19th, Mr. Speaker was also ordered to issue out his Warrant for a new Writ, for electing a Burgeſs

Burgess for the Borough of *Leicester* in *Leicestershire*, in the Room of *Sir Lawrence Carter*, Knt. now one of the Barons of the Exchequer; after which, the House proceeded to take into Consideration his Majesty's Speech to both Houses, and a Motion being made, That a Supply be granted to his Majesty, the same was referr'd to the Grand Committee of the next Day. Then Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrant for another new Writ for a Burgess for *Cockermouth* in *Cumberland*, in the Room of *Sir Thomas Pengelly*, now Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

The next Day (*Jan. 20th*) Mr. Speaker was also order'd to issue out his Warrant for another New Writ, for a Burgess for *Whitechurch* in the County of *Southampton*, in the Room of *Thomas Vernon*, Esq; deceased. Then in a Committee of the whole House, His Majesty's Speech was taken into Consideration, and the Motion, that a Supply be granted to his Majesty, was unanimously agreed to.

On Saturday the 21st of *January*, Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrant for another Writ, for a Burgess for *Newport* in the County of *Southampton*, in the Room of *Charles Cadogan*, Esq; now Lord *Cadogan*, call'd up to the House of Lords; after which, Mr. *Farrer*, from the Committee of the whole House, reported the preceding Day's Resolution for a Supply, which was agreed to *Nemine Contradicente*; and it was resolv'd to address his Majesty for Estimates of the Ordinary of the Navy; of the Charge for Guards, Garrisons and Land-Forces; and of the Office of Ordnance, for the Year 1727; A List of the Regimental and Warrant Officers in Half-Pay for the Year 1727, Accounts of the Services incurr'd, and not provided for by Parliament; how the Money given for the ~~Service~~ of the Year 1726, has been disposed of; of all the Ships in Sea-Pay, employ'd in the Year 1726, in what Stations, with the several Complements or Number of Men born or mustered in the said Ships; a State of the Debt of his Majesty's Navy, as it stood at *Christmas* last; an Account shewing the Moneys arisen within the respective half Years, ending at *Lady-Day*, and *Michaelmas* last past, as well of or for the Excesses or Surplusses of the Funds commonly called the Aggregate Fund, the South Sea Fund, and the General Fund; and lastly, an Account of such of the National Debts incur'd before the 25th of *December* 1726, as are redeemable by Parliament, with the Interest or Annuity attending the same, and when

when such Interest or Annuity will be reduced, and when the same are redeemable.

On Monday the 23d of *January*, the Commons resolv'd to address his Majesty for the Accession of the States General to the Treaty of *Hanover*, together with the separate Articles, if there were any; as also for the Copies of such Memorials, and Letters with the Answers thereto, as passed between his Majesty's Ministers, and the Courts of *Vienna* and *Spain*, since the Communication of the Treaty of Peace between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, to his Majesty by the Emperor's Minister: But a Motion being made by Sir *William Wyndham*, and the Question put, to address his Majesty, for a Copy of the Memorial presented to the King of *Sweden* by Mr. *Poyntz*, his Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary relating to the Accession of the Crown of *Sweden* to the Treaty of *Hanover*, dated *Stockholm* the 4th of *June* 1726. As also another Motion being made, and the Question put, to address his Majesty, for the Secret Offensive Alliance between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, both these Questions were carried in the Negative, without Dividing.

After this, the Commons, in a Grand Committee, consider'd of the Supply, and unanimously resolv'd, 1. That twenty Thousand Men be employ'd for the Sea-Service for the Year 1727, beginning the 1st of *January* 1726. 2. That four Pounds per Man per Month be allow'd for Maintaining the said 20,000 Men, for Thirteen Months, including the Ordnance for Sea Service: Which Resolutions being, the next Day, reported, were agreed by the House. The same Day, most of the Papers that had been call'd for, were laid before the House.

On Wednesday the 25th, the Commons, in a Grand Committee, consider'd further of the Supply, particularly with Relation to the Land Forces; and Mr. *Pelham*, Secretary of War, having shewn the Necessity of an Augmentation of about eight Thousand Men, Dragoons and Foot, the same was warmly opposed by Mr. *Shippen*, Dr. *Friend*, Sir *William Wyndham*, Mr. *Hungerford*, and some other Gentlemen; who were answer'd by Mr. *Pelham*, Colonel *Bladen*, Sir *William Yonge*, and General *Wade*; so that it was, at last, resolv'd by a Majority of 250 Voices against 95, 1st. That the Number of effective Men to be provided, for Guards, Garrisons, and Land Forces for the Year 1727 be, (including 1850 Invalids, and 555 Men, which the six Independent Companies consist