

upon the Report from the Committee to whom the Petition of the Master-Tailors was refer'd, a Bill was order'd to be brought in for regulating the Journeymen Tailors within the Weekly Bills of Mortality. After this, the *Bill for preventing the infamous Practice of Stock jobbing*, was read a second Time, and committed to a grand Committee; and, the Call of the House being farther adjourn'd to that Day se'v'n-night, upon a Motion made for that Purpose, an Order of the House of the 10th of February, *Decimo Gulielmi*, was read as follows, viz.

Order'd, That every Member of this House do take his Place, and not stand in the Passage, as he comes in or goes out, or sit or stand in any of the Passages to the Seats, or in the Passage behind the Chair, or elsewhere, that is not a proper Place.

Then Mr. Broderick, from the Committee of Secrecy, to whom it was refer'd to enquire into all the Proceedings relating to the Execution of the Act of the last Session of Parliament, intitled, *An Act for enabling the South Sea Company to encrease their present Capital Stock*, &c. reported the Matter as it appear'd to them, which they had directed him to report to the House; and having read the said Report in his Place, which took up near two Hours and an half, he deliver'd it in at the Table, where the same was again read. It was then mov'd, that the said Report be printed; but after several Speeches had been made thereupon, it was thought fit to order, that the said Report be taken into Consideration upon Saturday next.

That Report not having yet been publish'd, we cannot at present oblige our Readers with an *Abstract* of it; but it is said to contain a Detection of the deepest and largest Scene of Villainy and Fraud that ever was contriv'd and perpetrated. It imports, in particular, that the following Parcels of *South Sea Stock* were taken in for several Persons, viz.

For the Earl of S—d, at the Request of James Oaggs, Senior, Esq; _____	50,000	} at 150 to 180
For the Dutchess of K—l _____	10,000	
For the Countess of P—n _____	10,000	
		For

For the former's two Nieces ———	10,000	} at 150 to 180
For Mr. James Craggs, Sen. ———	30,000	
For Charles Stanhope, Esq; ———	10,000	
For the Sword Blade Company ———	50,000	

The Difference of which last Parcel amounting to 250000*l.* was suppos'd to be paid to Mr. Charles Stanhope by Sir George Caswal and Company; but that Sir George order'd the Name Stanhope to be partly eras'd out of the Book, and made Stangape. It also appeared by this Report, that Mr. Aislaby, late Chancellor of the Exchequer, had great Quantities of South Sea Stock given him; but that his Affairs were chiefly manag'd by Mr. Waller, his Son in Law, and Mr. Weymouth, a Broker: That Mr. Aislaby's last Account with Turner, Caswal and Company was 794,451*l.* That 68000*l.* Part thereof, was paid in Cash to Mr. Waller, as was also 44600*l.* more by one Bond of Caswal and Company; and 33000*l.* by another Bond of Caswal and Company, was paid to one Weddall. That Mr. Aislaby, as a Commissioner of the Treasury, had 4000*l.* in the first Money-Subscription; but that as soon as it came to bear an advance of about 40 per Cent. he had 20000*l.* more: That no Warrant is found for making the second Money-Subscription more than one Million; but that afterwards some of the leading Directors, by the Advice of Mr. Aislaby, made it 500000*l.* more: That the third Money-Subscription at 1000*l.* was promoted by Mr. Aislaby, whose List amounted to 70000*l.* the Earl of S——'s List to 160000*l.* Mr. Secretary Cragg's List to 639000*l.* and Mr. Charles Stanhope's to 47000*l.* That Mr. Aislaby likewise advis'd the lending Money on Stock; and that the Directors sold Part of the pawned Stock at high Prices; but that of 2,800000*l.* that should have been transferr'd by Mr. Knight to four of the Directors, there appear'd to be but 2,400000*l.* so that there was 400000*l.* Stock wanting. In the Close of the Report, the Committee of Secrecy took Notice, that in the Course of their Enquiry, they found mention made of great Quantities of South Sea Stock taken in for Members of both Houses of Parliament; but that the Committee did not think fit to name the Persons, nor to proceed further in an Affair of so nice a Nature, without the Directions of the House.

On the 17th of *February* the Commons, in a Committee of the whole House, consider'd of the King's Message relating to the *South Sea Company's* Petition, and came to the following Resolutions, viz. 1. That the Payment of the Sum of four Millions one hundred fifty six thousand three hundred six Pounds four Shillings eleven Pence, due to the Publick by the *South Sea Company*, by Virtue of the Act of the last Session of Parliament, and made payable within one Year, by four equal and quarterly Payments, the first Payment commencing the 25th Day of *March* 1721, be farther delay'd and pospon'd to the Year 1722; and that farther Provision be made for the more effectual Payment thereof. 2. That the Repayment of the Sum of One Million, which was lent to the *South Sea Company*, on, or about the 7th of *June* 1720, be pospon'd to the 7th Day of *June* 1722.

Feb. 18. These Resolutions were reported by Mr. *Farrer*, and agreed to by the House; and it was thereupon order'd, that it be an Instruction to the Committee of the whole House, to whom the ingrafting Bill was committed, that they have Power to receive a Clause or Clauses pursuant to the said Resolutions. After this, the Serjeant at Arms was order'd to summon the Members in the Places adjacent to attend the Service of the House, who then proceeded to take the Report from the Committee of Secrecy into Consideration; and after some Speeches on the several Parts of it, the House came unanimously to the several following Resolutions,

1. That the late Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors of the *South Sea Company*, and their Officers, and their Aiders and Abettors, in lending out the Company's Money upon Stock and Subscriptions, without taking sufficient Security for Repayment thereof, have been guilty of a notorious Breach of Trust, and have thereby occasion'd great Loss to the Company, for which they ought to make Satisfaction out of their own Estates.

2. That the selling or disposing of Stock or Subscriptions transferr'd or deposited as a Security for the Repayment of the Money so lent, was a notorious Breach of the Trust repos'd in the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, and their Officers, and a Fraud on the Proprietors, in order to enrich themselves,

themselves, for which they ought to make Satisfaction out of their own Estates.

3. That the taking in or holding of stock by the *South Sea Company*, for the Benefit of any Member of either House of Parliament, or Person concern'd in the Administration, (during the Time that the Company's Proposals, or the Bill thereto relating, were depending in Parliament) without any valuable Consideration paid, or sufficient security given for the Acceptance of, or Payment for such stock; and the Company's paying or allowing such Person the Difference arising between the advanc'd Price of the Stocks, were corrupt, infamous, and dangerous Practices, highly reflecting on the Honour and Justice of Parliaments, and destructive of the Interests of his Majesty's Government.

4. That any of the Directors of the *South Sea Company* selling their own stock at high Prices to the Company or others, at the same Time that they gave Orders for buying stock upon Account of the Company, under Pretence of keeping up the nominal Value of the said stock, was a scandalous Practice, tending to enrich themselves, to the great Loss and Detriment of the Company, and of others his Majesty's subjects, for which they ought to make satisfaction out of their own Estates.

5. That the declaring a Dividend of 30 per Cent. for Christmas last, and not less than 50 per Cent. per Annum for not less than 12 Years after, was an infamous Contrivance to give his Majesty's subjects false Notions of the Value of the said stock, that the late Directors might more easily dispose of their own stock at exorbitant Prices.

6. That the selling the stock of the *South Sea Company* to sale by subscriptions at high Prices above the intrinick Value of the same, by the late sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors of the said Company, was a gross and notorious Fraud, and has been one great Cause of the sinking of the publick Credit, and bringing upon the Nation the Distress it at present labours under.

7. That the advising the late sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors of the *South Sea Company*, to set the stock of the said Company to sale by subscriptions at high and extravagant Prices, or to declare the high and extravagant Dividends for Christmas

was last, and 12 Years after, by any Persons in the Administration, was a notorious Breach of the Trust repos'd in them, to the Prejudice of his Majesty's Government, and the Interest of this Kingdom.

Then the farther Consideration of the said Report was, adjourn'd to the 21st, when, after some Time spent therein, the Commons came to the farther unanimous Resolutions that follow, viz.

8. That the Entry in the Cash-Book of the *South Sea Company* of five hundred seventy four thousand five hundred Pounds Stock, pretend'd to be sold for one Million two hundred thirteen thousand five hundred seventy five Pounds, between the 4th of *February* 1719, and the 12th of *April* following, was contriv'd with a Design to conceal the Names of Persons for whose Benefit Stock was taken in by the said Company.

9. That every Person for whom stock was taken in or held, such Stock being Part of the five hundred seventy four thousand five hundred Pounds, pretend'd to be sold by the *South Sea Company*, from the 4th Day of *February* 1719, to the 12th Day of *April* following, without Money paid, or sufficient Security given for the Acceptance of, and Payment for such Stock, be oblig'd to pay to the said Company all such Sums of Money as have been receiv'd by way of Difference, or otherwise, for such Stock taken in or held as aforesaid.

10. That the Addition of two hundred fifty thousand Pounds to the first Money-Subscription, after it had been declar'd to have been open'd for two Millions, and the Addition of five hundred thousand Pounds to the second Money-Subscription, after it had been declar'd to be open'd for one Million, were fraudulently contriv'd to give corrupt Advantages to particular Persons, and were injurious to publick Credit.

11. That a Bill be brought in for the Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South Sea Company*.

And it was order'd, 2^d, That Mr. Broderick, Mr. Pulteney, Mr. Chancellor of the Dutchy, the Lord Moleworth, Mr. Attorney General, Master of the Rolls, Mr. Smith, Mr. Ward, Mr. Horatio Walpole, Mr. Lowndes, Mr. Roffe, Lord Barrington, Mr. Serjeant
Fergus

Pengelly, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. *Jeffries*, and Mr. *Talbot*, do prepare and bring in the same. 2^{dly}, That the said Bill be brought in pursuant to the Resolutions of this House of this Day and of the 18th Instant.

Feb. 21. The ingross'd Bill for preventing the corrupting of Juries, &c. was read the 3^d Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords; and then a Petition of *Robert Surman*, Gent. late Deputy-Cashier to the South Sea Company, (in Custody of the Serjeant at Arms) was presented to the House and read, praying, that he might be discharged out of Custody, paying his Fees, (he having given Security, pursuant to the late Act of Parliament) to the End he might prepare the Accounts and Inventories of his Estate, as the said Act directs: Which Petition was order'd to be taken into Consideration the next Morning. It was also order'd,

1. That the Directors of the South Sea Company do, with all convenient speed, lay before this House an Account of what they intend to do, in relation to the several Persons interested in the said Company by Money-Subscriptions, or otherwise.

2. That the Directors of the South Sea Company do lay before this House the Proceedings and Resolutions of the general Court of the said Company held the 23^d of December last.

Feb. 20. Three Petitions of *Sir Theodore Janssen*, Kt. and Bart. *Sir John Fellows*, Bart. and *Sir John Lambert*, Bart. in Custody of the Serjeant at Arms, were severally presented to the House, and read, praying to be discharge'd out of Custody, upon the same Allegations contain'd in the Petition of *Mr. Surman*, which three Petitions were also order'd to be taken into Consideration on the 2^d, when they were all order'd to be discharge'd paying their Fees, as was also *Jacob Sawbridge*, Esq; who petitioned that very Day, *Feb. 22.*

We must take Notice, that on the 20th the ingross'd Bill to preserve and encourage the Woollen and Silk Manufactures, by prohibiting Callicoes, &c. (except as therein is excepted) was read the 3^d Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords. Then a Motion being made, and the Question put, that it be an Instruction to the grand Committee, to whom the ingrossing Bill was committed, that they do receive Proposals from the South Sea Company, touching the Manner in which they

they intend to execute the Proposals laid before the House for restoring publick Credit, it pass'd in the Negative; but it was order'd, that it be an Instruction to the said Committee, that they have Power to receive a Clause to exempt all Transfers of Stock in the three Companies, of one hundred Pounds or under, from all Duties. After this, in a grand Committee, the Commons went through the said Bill, and made several Amendments thereto, which being reported on the 22d, and agreed to, and some other Amendments being made by the House, the said Bill was order'd to be ingross'd.

Feb. 23. The ingross'd Bill for the better Preservation of the Harbour of Rye was read the 3d Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords. Then the secretary to the South Sea Company presented to the House a Paper, containing the Proceedings of the general Court of the South Sea Company, held the 23d of December 1720, which was order'd to lie on the Table; and after Mr. Speaker had been order'd to issue his Warrant for a new Writ, for the electing a Burgess for the Borough of Truro in Cornwall, in the Room of John Selwyn, Esq; who had accepted the Office of Receiver-General and Calhier of his Majesty's Customs, the Call of the House was farther adjourn'd to that Day se'nnight.

On the 24th of February Mr. Serjeant Birch presented to the Commons a farther Report of the Commissioners and Trustees of the forfeited Estates in England, Ireland, and elsewhere, except Scotland; which was order'd to lie on the Table; and then Mr. Treby reported the Amendments made to the Bill for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, &c. which were agreed to, and another Amendment being made to the Bill, the same was order'd to be ingross'd.

Feb. 25. Mr. Broderick acquainted the Commons, That the Committee of Secrecy, since their former Report, had come to a farther Knowledge of some Matters therein mention'd, and were ready to lay a farther Report before the House, at such Time as the House should appoint to receive the same. Hereupon it was order'd, that the Report be not receiv'd. Mr. Broderick accordingly read the said Report in his Place, and afterwards deliver'd it in at the Table, where the same was again read, and then order'd to lie on the Table. This Report relat'd chiefly to great

Quantities of Stock and subscriptions which appear'd to have been taken in for Mr. *Aylmer*, late Chancellor of the *Exchequer*, and *Charles Stanhope*, Esq; one of the Secretaries of the Treasury, and both Members of the House, who thereupon insisted on their Innocence, and press'd, that a short Day might be appointed to examine that Matter, that they might have an Opportunity to clear themselves. Mr. *Broderick* represented thereupon, ' That tho' the secret Committee had a great deal of Evidence to support the Charge against those two Gentlemen, yet they wanted a material Witness, viz. Mr. *Knight*, late Treasurer of the *South Sea Company*, who was in safe Custody, and in all Probability, would soon be brought over; and therefore the Committee hoped that the House would not hurry an Affair of so great Importance. Mr. *Stanhope* urging how heavy an Imputation of so heinous a Nature lies upon a Man who knows himself to be intirely innocent, which, he said, was his Case; and renewing his Instances for examining into it, the Tuesday following, being the last Day of *February*, was appointed for that Purpose; and it was order'd, that Mr. *Charles Joye*, Mr. *Edward Gibben*, Mr. *Robert Chester*, Mr. *Richard Holditch*, Sir *John Blunt*, Bart. Mr. *Robert Surman*, Mr. *Jacob Sawbridge*, Mr. *Elias Turner*, Mr. *Henry Blunt*, Mr. *Robinson Knight*, Mr. *Daniel Watkins*, Mr. *Richard Fenton*, Mr. *John Maddy*, and Mr. *John Mount*, should, on that Day, attend this House. After this, the House consider'd farther of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, and Notice being taken of a Fraud committed in relation to the two last Money-subscriptions, it was resolv'd, *Nemine Contradicente*, that the suppos'd Deficiency of six hundred thousand Pounds upon the third Money-subscription, and one hundred thousand Pounds upon the fourth Money-subscription, taken by the *South Sea Company*, ought to be made good and answer'd to the Company, by the late sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, and Cashier, the said subscriptions being declar'd, at a general Court of the said Company, holden the eighth Day of *September* 1720, to have been compleated at five Millions, and at two Millions five hundred thousand Pounds respectively, and accordingly enter'd and pass'd to the Credit of the Company

in their Call-Book. Then it was order'd, that it be an Instruction to the Gentlemen who were to prepare and bring in the Bill for the Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South Sea Company*, that they do prepare and bring in a Clause or Clauses pursuant to the said Resolution; as also, that it be an Instruction to the Committee of Secrecy, that they proceed in the farther Examination of Particulars of the five hundred seventy four thousand five hundred Pounds *South Sea* stock, suppos'd to be dispos'd of between the 4th of *February* 1719, and the 12th of *April* following.

On the 27th of *February* Sir *John Fellows*, Bart. was order'd to attend the House the next Morning, as was also the proper Officer of the *Bank of England*, with the Book or Books wherein the Payment of the *South Sea Company's* Call-Draughts were enter'd, from the 1st of *February* 1719, to the 1st of *October* 1720, together with the Name or Names of the Officer or Officers who paid the same; and that the said Officer or Officers do attend this House at the same Time. Then a Message was sent to the Lords, to desire that *Edmond Waller*, Esq; in Custody of the Gentleman-Usher to the Black Rod, might from Time to Time be produc'd before the House of Commons, or any Committee of that House, when desir'd; which the Lords readily comply'd with.

Feb. 28. The Commons resum'd the farther Consideration of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, some Parts of which relating to *Charles Stanhope*, Esq; were read; after which, the Examination of Sir *John Blunt*, Mr. *Holditch*, *Jacob Sawbridge*, sen. Esq; Mr. *Henry Blunt*, and others, before the Committee of Secrecy, were severally read, and they were severally call'd in and examin'd, as were also Mr. *Elias Turner*, and others. The Charge against Mr. *Stanhope* consisted of two Articles, 1st, That ~~10000~~ *South Sea* stock was taken in for his Benefit, by Mr. *Knight*, without any valuable Consideration; and that the Difference arising by the advanc'd Price thereof was paid him out of the Call of the *South Sea Company*. 2^{dly}, That *Turner* and Company had bought 50000*l.* stock at a low Price of the *South Sea Company*, in the Name and for the Benefit of Mr. *Stanhope*, the Difference of the advanc'd Price whereof, amounting to 250000*l.* had been paid to the said *Charles Stanhope*, Esq;

Esq; by Sir George Caswel and Company. To prove these Articles, the secret Committee caus'd the Examinations before-mention'd, and the Persons above-nam'd, to be examin'd; but some of the latter rather weaken'd than corroborated their former Depositions; Sir John Blunt, in particular, own'd, as to the first Article, that Mr. Knight had shew'd him a Letter, which he told him was sign'd by Mr. Stanhope, desiring him to take 10000*l.* Stock for him; but that he did not know whether that Letter was genuine, nor what was become of it: And as for the 50000*l.* Stock transferr'd to the *Sword Blade Company* in Mr. Stanhope's Name, Mr. Sawbridge and Mr. Turner had the Modesty and good Nature to take the whole Iniquity of the Juggle upon themselves, and in the Face of the Commons of *Great Britain* to own, that they had made Use of Mr. Stanhope's Name, without his Privy or Consent. These Examinations, together with the Animadversions of the Members of the secret Committee thereupon, lasted 'till eight a-Clock in the Evening, after which Mr. Stanhope was heard in his Place. As to the first Article, he said, 'That for some Years past he had lodg'd all the Money he was Master of in Mr. Knight's Hands, and whatever Stock Mr. Knight had taken in for him, he had paid a valuable Consideration for it: And as to the second; that he could not answer for what had been done without his Consent.' When he had done speaking, and was withdrawn, a Motion being made, and the Question being put, that it appears to this House, that during the Time that the Proposal made by the *South Sea Company*, and the Bill relating thereto, were depending in this House, 10000*l.* Stock was taken in, or held by Mr. Knight, late Cashier of the said Company, for the Benefit of Charles Stanhope, Esq; one of the Secretaries of the Treasury, and a Member of this House, without any valuable Consideration paid, or Security given for the Acceptance of, or Payment for the said Stock; and that the Difference arising by the Advanc'd Price thereof was paid to the said Charles Stanhope, Esq; out of the Cash of the *South Sea Company*, it was carry'd in the Negative by a Majority only of three Voices, viz. 180 against 177, which occasion'd various Reflections. However, it was thought necessary to lay a Censure on the *Sword-Blade Company*, and therefore it was resolv'd, that

the making Use of the Name of *Charles Stanhope, Esq.* (a Member of this House) in the Entries of the Books of *Turner and Company*, in order to conceal 50000*l.* Stock, suppos'd to be bought of the *South Sea Company*, was an unjustifiable and unwarrantable Practice.

Then the farther Consideration of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy was adjourn'd to the 3d of *March*.

Let's now attend the Proceedings of the House of Peers. On Tuesday the 14th of *February*, their Lordships examin'd Mr. *Grigby*, late Accomptant General of the *South Sea Company*, Mr. *Surman*, late Deputy-Cashier, and Mr. *Bon-Ouvrier*, a French Broker; and order'd Mr. *Waller*, Son in-Law to Mr. *Aislaby*, into the Custody of the Usher of the Black Rod. Two Days after, the Earl of *Clarendon*, Chairmarr of their Lordships grand Committee, reported the Resolutions their Lordships had come to, in relation to this Inquiry; and the same Day their Lordships examin'd also *John Barber*, a Printer, a private Agent of some late leading Directors, and who was shrewdly suspected of having been employ'd in dealing out *South Sea* Stock to some Members, while the *South Sea* Proposals, and the Bill thereupon, were depending.

On the 27th of *February* the House of Peers took into Consideration some Matters relating to a Trial at the last Assizes at *Hereford*, touching the Presentation to the Vicarage of *Leominster*, which was claim'd by Earl *Corningsby*, Lord Lieutenant and *Custos Rotulorum* of the County of *Hereford*; and at the same Time examin'd into the Complaint of the Lord High Chancellor, who, in a printed Pamphlet entitled, *The first Part of the Earl Corningsby's Case relating to the Vicarage of Leominster*, which had been given out at the Door of the Lords House, was reflected on, for putting disaffected Persons in the Commission of the Peace. In order to make good this Charge, there had been printed and dispers'd, together with the Case before-mention'd, the following Examination and Affidavit, viz.

Hereford

Hereford II. The Examination of *John Jones*, late Servant to *William Jenkins*, of the Parish of *Morton upon Lugg* in the said County, Yeoman, taken upon Oath the 10th Day of *January*, Anno Dom. 1720, before *John Dutton-Cole*, and *Henry Jones*, Esqs. two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County.

THIS Deponent maketh Oath, that on or about the 14th Day of November last past, he this Deponent, and his Master *William Jenkins* aforesaid, going into the Barn, and hearing the Bells ringing at *Marden*, he the said *Jenkins* said, the Bells are ringing bravely at *Marden* for the *Lord Coningsby*, but if they were ringing for his Burial, they would ring at better Content, for my Lord was but an ordinary Man once as I am; for the *Lord Coningsby* had got his Riches by plundering and murdering the People in *Ireland*, and brought a golden Chair thence: And this Deponent answer'd, that he, the said *Lord Coningsby*, would be punish'd if he did so in this Country: And the said *Jenkins* said again, no, he is too great with the *K-g*, for he the said *Lord Coningsby* did send the golden Chair to him, and they both did agree to send the Value of the said Chair to mend the Country from whence the *K-g* came, for there nothing did grow but Turnips; and the said *Jenkins* farther said, that it was no more Sin to kill my *Lord Coningsby* than it was to kill our great Dog, (meaning the said *Jenkins's* own Dog) and that he the said *Lord Coningsby* and the *K-g* were two Presbyterian Rogues: And this Deponent some small Time after told one *John Yates* of *Aubor*, in the Parish of *Morton upon Lugg* aforesaid, that he this Deponent would go and complain to the said *Lord Coningsby* what he the said *Jenkins* had said; and the said *Jenkins* hearing that this Deponent would complain, procur'd a Warrant from *Edward Witherston*, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, to apprehend this Deponent for the same; and this Deponent coming before the said Mr. Justice *Witherston*, by Vertue of the said Warrant, the said Mr. Justice *Witherston* told this Deponent, that he was a Rogue for discovering such Words, if he had heard his Master speak the same; and that he the said

K/z

Justice

Justice would send this Deponent to 'Goal' if he had no Bail; and accordingly did send this Deponent to Goal for the same, where he hath continu'd for the Space of five Weeks.

Jur' per Ordin' Session' Die
& Ann' Supradict' apud
Hereford in Com' Hereford
Coram nobis

J. D. Colt,
H. Jones.

The Mark of

John Jones.

This Affidavit being mainly levell'd against *Edward Witherston*, Esq; High Sheriff of the County of *Hereford*, and a Person, it seems, in great Esteem with all Ranks and Degrees of Men there, was soon after oppos'd by three Addressees, one from the Clergy, another from the City, and a third from the County of *Hereford*, which, on the 24th of *February*, were presented to his Majesty by the Members of Parliament for *Hærfordshire*, introduc'd by the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, as follow, viz.

To the King's most excellent Majesty.

WE the Bishop, Dean, Residentiaries and Prebendaries of the Cathedral Church of *Hereford*, and the Parochial Clergy within the Diocese of the same.

Do, in Justice to our Sovereign, as well as to our Fellow-Subjects, most humbly represent to your Majesty, that *Edward Witherston*, Esq; High Sheriff of the County of *Hereford*, has always been esteem'd a Person zealous for the present Establishment in Church and State, and so remarkably distinguish'd for his constant Affection to your Majesty, that those who have no Knowledge of his Person, are no Strangers to that Part of his Character; that he has always, as a Magistrate, as far as ever we have heard, been free from the least Imputation of any traiterous Relaxation of the Laws against your Majesty's Enemies, or of being seduc'd into any arbitrary or illegal Measures, by the strongest Temptations of Fear or Interest; and that we believe he has neither prostitut'd the Safety and Honour of his Sovereign, or the Liberty and Property of his Fellow-Subjects, but has always us'd the Power with which he has been intrusted, with a Fidelity becoming

Can upright Magistrate, for the Support of your sacred Person and Government. That these Blessings may be long preserv'd, shall be the Prayer of your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects,

To the King's most excellent Majesty,
The humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, and
chief Citizens of the City of Hereford, in Common
Council assembled.

Most gracious Sovereign,

W *E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, with Hearts full of Joy and Gratitude, most thankfully acknowledge your Majesty's great Wisdom and Goodness in the Appointment of Edward Witherston, Esq; for High Sheriff of your County of Hereford; his eminent Affection and inviolable Attachment to your Person and Government very early distinguish'd him, and justly qualify'd him for the Commission of the Peace, in which we beg Leave to assure your Majesty, that he hath acted with impartial Justice; that, no personal Resentment, or private Views of Interest or Ambition, ever influenc'd or determin'd his Decisions; the Offence he ever sever'd from the Person; the Equity of the Sentence along convicts; the Reformation anticipates Punishment; that he hath by no oppressive Methods, or illegal Procedure, affected the Liberty or Property of his Fellow-Subjects, or by inodinating Characters, chill'd their Allegiance, or alienated their Affections from their Sovereign; that his Address and regular Dispatch of publick Affairs, hath gain'd him an universal Reputation, which he ever employ'd in the Promotion of your Majesty's Interest, and whenever he dispens'd Justice, he recommended and advanc'd Loyalty.*

That no declar'd Enemies may ever disturb the Tranquillity of your Reign, nor, false Friends (more dangerous by their Profession) render uneasy that Government, whose Interest and Duty it is to support and maintain, is the Prayer of your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects.

In Testimony whereof we have hereto put our Common Seal, the 10th Day of February, in the 7th Year of your Majesty's Reign.

To the King's most excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Representatives in Parliament for the County and City of Hereford, and Boroughs within the same; and also of the Deputy Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, and other Gentlemen within the said County.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most loyal Subjects do, with the utmost Gratitude, acknowledge, that your gracious Choice of Edward Witherston, Esq; for our High Sheriff, has been receiv'd with universal Satisfaction to your faithful Subjects in these Parts; and in Justice to him, and to free his Character from any Misrepresentations that have been laid before your Majesty, do, with all Humility, beg Leave to remonstrate, that he hath been eminently distinguish'd by a steady Zeal for the present happy Establishment, by a particular Affection to your Majesty's Person, and by an impartial Distribution of Justice, both for the Safety of the Crown and Property of the Subject; and that as he has hitherto neither disgusted your true Friends, or traiterously encourag'd your Enemies, or by Imprudence or Oppression increas'd their Number, so we do, with the greatest Confidence believe, that under the late Marks of your Royal Favour and Approbation, which surely he could not gain by surprising your Majesty or Council, he will continue (though in a more conspicuous Manner) to shew his good Inclination and dutiful Behaviour towards your Majesty's Person and Government. That we may long enjoy both these Blessings, are the Prayers of your Majesty's most faithful and most obedient Subjects.

On the other Hand, the Earl Coningsby not having been able to make out his Allegations, either in relation to Mr. Witherston, or as to other Particulars, the Lords thought fit to censure his Case, and to commit him Prisoner to the Tower of London, whither he was carry'd the next Day, being the last of February, On which Day the Lords heard Counsel for the East India Company against the Callico Bill.

The Act for restraining the Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, Treasurer or Cashier, Deputy-Cashier,

Cashier, and Accountant of the South Sea Company, from going out of this Kingdom, &c. imports,

1. That whereas Sir John Fellows, Bart. the present Sub-Governor, Charles Joye, Deputy-Governor, and William Astell, Esqs. Sir Lambert Blackwell, Bart. Sir John Blunt, Bart. Sir Robert Chaplin, Bart. Sir William Chapman, Kt. and Bart. Robert Chesler, Stephen Child, Peter Delaport, Francis Eyles, James Edmondson, Edward Gibbon, John Gore, Esqs. Sir William Hammond, Kt. Francis Hawes, Richard Horsey, Richard Holditch, Esqs. Sir Theodore Janssen, Kt. and Bart. Sir Jacob Jacobson, Kt. Arthur Ingram, Esq; Sir John Lambert, Bart. Sir Harcourt Master, Kt. William Morley, Ambrose Page, Esqs. Colonel Hugh Raymond, Samuel Read, jun Thomas Reynolds, Jacob Sawbridge, William Tillard, and John Turner, Esqs. Directors of the Corporation of Merchants of Great Britain trading to the South Seas, &c. and also Robert Knight, Treasurer or Cashier, Robert Surman, Deputy-Cashier, and John Grigby, Accountant to the said Corporation, in Confederacy with the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, under Colour of an Act pass'd in the last Session of Parliament, have contriv'd and carry'd on many notorious, fraudulent, and indirect Practices, contrary to the Intention of the said Act, to the great Detriment of the Publick, in Breach of their Trust, and to the manifest Wrong and Oppression of great Numbers of his Majesty's Subjects: Now to the End that their Persons and Estates may be secur'd, so as to answer and be liable to Justice in Parliament, be it enacted, That the said Sub-Governor, Deputy Governor, Directors, &c. shall not go or depart out of this Kingdom during the Space of one whole Year, to be computed from the eighth Day of December 1720, and until the End of the then next Session of Parliament; and the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. shall, before the eighth Day of February 1720, in due Form of Law, severally enter into one or more Recognizances to his Majesty, with two or more sufficient Sureties, before the Lord Chief Baron, or one other of the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer at Westminster, for the Time being, in the respective Penalties herein after mention'd, (that is to say) on the Penalty of one hundred thousand Pounds for every of them, the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor &c. and in the Penalty of twenty five

five thousand Pounds for every of the Sureties of any of them the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. which said several Recognizances shall be made upon this Condition, That if such of the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. as shall enter into such Recognizance, shall not go or depart out of this Kingdom, during the Space of one whole Year, to be accounted from the said eighth Day of *December*, in the Year of our Lord 1720, or before the End of the then next Session of Parliament, then such Recognizance shall be void, otherwise the same shall remain in Force: And in case the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. shall neglect to enter into such Recognizances before the said eighth Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord 1720, every of them, so neglecting, shall, by the Chief Baron or Barons, be committed to the Prison of the *Fleet*, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, until the End of the said Year, and until the End of the then next Session of Parliament, or until he shall enter into such Recognizance with Sureties as aforesaid: And if any of them the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. shall, within the Time above specify'd, go or depart out of this Kingdom; every of them so offending, and also every Person who shall knowingly and willingly be aiding and assisting to such Departure of any of them out of this Kingdom, shall be adjudg'd guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy, and shall forfeit to the King, his Heirs and Successors, all and singular his Lands, Tenements, &c.

II. And in order to a full Discovery of the Estate and Effects of the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. be it enacted, That every of them shall, before the twenty fifth Day of *March* 1720, respectively deliver in upon Oath before the Lord Chief Baron, or one other of the Barons of the *Exchequer*, two several true and exact Particulars and Inventories (both of the same Import and Tenor) of all and singular the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, Goods, Chattels, Debts, and personal Estate whatsoever, which he was seiz'd or possess'd of, or entitled unto in his own Right, and which any other Person or Persons was or were seiz'd or possess'd of or

in Trust for him, or to or for his Use or Benefit, upon the first Day of June 1720, or at any Time after (the necessary wearing Apparel only excepted) and in Case the Person delivering in such Particulars and Inventories, or any other Person in Trust for him, with his Privy, since the first Day of June 1720, hath convey'd, transferr'd, or otherwise dispos'd of any Part of such Lands, Tenements, &c. which he, or any other Person for him, was possess'd of, upon the said first Day of June 1720, or at any Time after, then such Particulars and Inventories shall contain a true Account what Part of such Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods, &c. he hath so convey'd or otherwise dispos'd of, and to what Person or Persons by Name, at what Time or Times, and whether for any and what Price or Consideration either paid down, or secur'd to be paid.

III. Enacted, That the Lord Chief Baron, and other the Barons of the *Exchequer*, to whom any such Particulars and Inventories shall be deliver'd in upon Oath in Pursuance of this Act, shall, within convenient Time, deliver one Duplicate thereof to the Lord Chancellor, or Speaker of the House of Lords, and one other Duplicate thereof to the Speaker of the House of Commons, to be by them forthwith laid before the respective Houses. And if it shall appear, upon Inspection or Perusal of such Particulars by the said Lord Chief Baron and Barons, that the same are evasive or uncertain; or if Signification shall be made from either House of Parliament by the Lord Chancellor, or the Speaker of the House of Commons, that a farther Examination shall be thereupon had; or if Information shall be given, upon Oath, to the said Lord Chief Baron or Barons of any Concealment, Omission, or Falsity in such Particulars, then it shall be lawful for the said Lord Chief Baron or Barons to examine, upon Oath, the Person delivering in such respective Particulars and Inventories, upon such Interrogatories, as may tend to disclose his Estate, or any secret Grants, or Disposition of his Lands, Debts, and personal Estate, as they shall think meet: And the said Chief Baron and Barons are authoriz'd and requir'd to summon before them, any of them the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. and in default of Attendance upon any such Summons, the Lord Chief Baron and Barons shall

shall and may issue Warrants to such *ix* Persons as they think meet, to apprehend and bring before them any of the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. at such Times and Places as shall be mention'd in such Warrants; and if thereupon any of the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. shall refuse to be examin'd, or to answer fully to every Interrogatory, it shall be lawful for the said Chief Baron and Barons to commit any of them the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. to the Prison of the *Fleet*. there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, till he shall submit to be examin'd, and answer as aforesaid; and in case any of the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. shall neglect or refuse to deliver in such Particulars of their Estates in Manner before-mention'd, or shall not, within the Space of eight Days after his being committed, submit to be examin'd, as aforesaid, or shall be guilty of any wilful Concealment, in any Examination, then every of them, so offending, shall be adjudg'd guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy, &c.

IV. Enacted, That if any Persons being known, suppos'd, or suspected to have or detain any Part of the Lands, Tenements, Goods, Chattels, or personal Estate of any of them the said Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. or to be able to give any Information or Evidence concerning the same, or to be indebted to or for the Benefit of any of them, shall, after lawful Summons to appear before the said Lord Chief Baron and Barons to be examin'd, neglect or refuse to come at the Time appointed in such Summons, having no lawful Impediment, or shall refuse to be sworn, or to make Answer to such Interrogatories as shall be administer'd to him or them, then, and in the said Cases, it shall be lawful for the said Lord Chief Baron and Barons, to issue their Warrants to apprehend any Person so neglecting or refusing to appear, and to bring him, her, or them to be examin'd, and to commit to the Prison of the *Fleet* all such Persons as shall so refuse to be sworn, or make Answer to such Interrogatories as shall be administer'd as aforesaid, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, until such Time as the said Person, so refusing to be sworn, or to answer to such Interrogatories,

ries, shall submit him or herself to be examin'd according to the Meaning of this Act.

V. Enacted, That the said Sub Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. shall, for the Space of one whole Year, to be computed from the fifth Day of *January* 1720, and until the End of the then next Session of Parliament, be disabled from, and made incapable of conveying, aliening, settling, charging, or incumbering any Lands, &c. to which they, or any Persons in Trust for them, are, or shall be entitled, and also during the Time aforesaid, shall be disabled from assigning, conveying, or making over any of their personal Estate in Trust for themselves, their Wives and Children, and also from otherwise disposing of any of their personal Estate, except for the necessary Subsistence of themselves and Families, or for paying such just Debts as are or shall be contracted and due by them respectively, before the fifth Day of *January* 1720, and except perishable Goods.

VI. Provided, That this Act shall not disable any of them from disposing of their Estates by their last Will and Testament, in case they, or any of them, shall happen to die during the Time aforesaid, subject nevertheless to the Justice and Disposition of Parliament.

VII. Enacted, That the said Sub Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. during the Space of one whole Year, from the said fifth of *January* 1720, and until the End of the then next Session of Parliament, shall not transport or convey any of their Goods, Chattels, Monies, or Effects out of this Realm, other than Ships, and Shares of Ships, whereof they were possess'd on the said fifth Day of *January* 1720, and other than for paying such just Debts as are or shall be contracted and due before the said fifth Day of *January*: And if any of them the said Sub Governor, Deputy-Governor, &c. shall, within the Space of one whole Year, from the said fifth Day of *January*, transport or convey any of his Goods, Monies, or other Effects out of this Realm, then every of them so offending, and every other Person, knowingly and willingly aiding and assisting therein, shall be adjudg'd guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon without Benefit of Clergy, &c.

VIII. And for the more effectual Discovery of the Estates and Effects of the said Sub-Governor, &c. be it enacted, That all Persons within this Kingdom who shall have accepted of any Trusts, or shall conceal or protect any Estate, real or personal, of or for any of them the said Sub-Governor, &c. and shall not before the 24th Day of June 1721, truly discover such Trust and Estate in Writing to the Lord Chief Baron, or one of the Barons of the *Exchequer*, shall forfeit treble the Value of the Estate, real or personal, so conceal'd; one Moiety thereof to his Majesty, and the other Moiety thereof to them who shall sue for the same; and shall suffer Imprisonment for one Year without Bail or Mainprize.

IX. Enacted, That every Person who shall, before the 20th of September 1721, voluntarily come before one of the Barons of the *Exchequer*, and make a true Discovery in Writing upon Oath of any Part of the Estate, of any, the said Sub-Governor, &c. which shall have been conceal'd, shall be allow'd after the Rate of 20*l.* per Cent. according to the Value of such Estate or Effects so discover'd, being in any Part beyond the Seas, and after the Rate of 10*l.* per Cent. according to the Value of such Estates or Effects so discover'd, remaining within this Kingdom, to be paid and allow'd out of the said Estate and Effects, or to be recover'd by Action of Debt to be brought upon this Act.

X. Provided, and be it enacted, That all and every the Lands, Tenements, Goods, Chattels, Debts, Sums of Money, and personal Estate whatsoever of the said Sub-Governor, &c. which shall be forfeited and recover'd by Virtue of this Act, shall be paid and answer'd into the Receipt of *Exchequer*, to be issu'd and apply'd for the Use and Benefit of the Corporation of the Governor and Company of Merchants of *Great Britain* trading to the *South Seas*, &c.

XI. Enacted, That this Act shall be deem'd, adjudg'd, and taken to be a publick Act, to be judicially taken Notice of by all Judges, Justices, and other Persons whatsoever.

I R E L A N D.

THE following Piece is a Proof of the restless Endeavours of the Enemies of the Government, to disturb and overthrow our happy Constitution both in Church and State.

By the Lords Justices and Council in Ireland, a Proclamation.

MIDDLETON,

Wm. Conolly.

WHEREAS we have Information upon Oath, that several Persons have been of late enlisted in the County of *Waterford*, and in other Parts of this Kingdom, under Pretence of engaging in foreign Service, but, with Intention (as it appears to us) to serve the Pretender, and have appear'd in the said County of *Waterford* and other Places in Arms in great Numbers, to the Terror of his Majesty's good Subjects; and that several Persons are, at this Time, enlisting Men for the said Service: We therefore, having resolv'd to put a Stop to the said traiterous Practices, and to bring the Actors therein to condign Punishment, do, by this our Proclamation, strictly charge and command all Justices of the Peace, Magistrates, Sheriffs, and all other his Majesty's Officers, Civil and Military, to use their utmost Endeavours to discover, seize, and apprehend all and every Person and Persons who shall enlist any Men for the said Service, as also all such who shall be so enlisted. And for the Encouragement of such as shall within three Months, from the Date of this our Proclamation, discover any of the Offenders aforesaid, so as they or any of them may be brought to Justice, such Discoverer shall receive, as a Reward, for every Person so enlisting the Sum of fifty Pounds, and for every one so enlisted the Sum of five Pounds. And we do hereby strictly command and require all Magistrates and Officers, the several Officers of his Majesty's Revenue in the several Ports of this Kingdom, and all other his Majesty's Subjects, to use their utmost Care and Diligence to prevent all such Persons as are enlisted, and all such other Persons as shall hereafter

after be enlisted for the said Service, from going out of this Kingdom. And for the more effectual preventing of Persons being enlisted for the said Service, we do prohibit and forbid all Persons whatsoever to enlist themselves, or to entertain or enlist any of his Majesty's Subjects in this Kingdom, in the Service of any foreign Prince or State whatsoever, without Authority or Leave from his Majesty, or the chief Governor or Governors of this Kingdom for the Time being, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost Peril. And we do hereby declare, that any Person who has been or shall be enlisted or entertain'd for the Service of the Pretender, and and shall, within the Space of three Months, from the Date of this our Proclamation, discover the Person who enlisted him before any Justice of the Peace, the first Discoverer of every Person so enlisting shall have his Pardon for the same; and if the Person who enlisted him shall be apprehended and convicted thereof, then such first Discoverer shall have and receive the Reward of fifty Pounds as aforesaid for his Service.

Given at the Council Chamber in Dublin, the 14th Day of February, 1720.

Edw. Tuam, Fitz-William Ferrard, Tulla Moore, W. Whitford, Oliver S. George, Frederick Hamilton, Ben. Parry, R. Tighe.

God save the King.

This *Register* being the 1st for the Year 1721, shall conclude with a short Review, by Way of Recapitulation, of the chief Transactions that happen'd in *Europe* during the Course of the preceding Year.

Of the Occurrences that happen'd in the Year 1720, one of the most material is, the Resignation of the Royal Authority made by the Queen of Sweden in Favour of her Husband the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse Cassel*, and his Election in Consequence thereof by the States of the Kingdom to the Throne.

Throne. This is an Event of such Importance, that it well deserves a Place in the Records of Time; where but few, if any, parallel Instances can be found. That Prince is born of a Family professing the Reform'd Religion, and who have, for several Ages, distinguish'd themselves for their Zeal and Piety, and, consequently, his Elevation to the Throne of *Sweden* cannot but turn to the common Advantage of the Protestant Interest, and contribute to inspire the different Sects, both *Lutherans* and *Calvinists*, with mutual Love, and induce them to unite both Heart and Hands to oppose the Designs of their Enemies.

The Expedition of the *Spaniards* into *Africa* is another of the most considerable Events of the preceding Year. The Enterprize in its Design was great and glorious; nor could it promise better Success than it did in its Beginning: The Deliverance of the City of *Ceuta* from a Siege of almost twenty-seven Years continuance, and the gaining of three considerable Advantages over the Infidels in the Space of less than seven Weeks Time, seem'd to forebode a happy Issue of the Undertaking: But the Moors receiving still fresh Reinforcements, even 'till their Army amounted to 100000 Men, and being besides entire Masters of the Country, from whence the *Spaniards* could receive no Subsistence, Valour and Conduct were at length forc'd to yield to Multitudes, and the *Spanish* Troops, after having repair'd the damag'd Fortifications of *Ceuta*, and added some new to the Place, were oblig'd to abandon the farther Pursuit of their Enterprize, and return to *Spain*.

Cardinal *Alberoni* having been the chief Author of the War in *Italy*, his Disgrace and Dismission from the Court of *Madrid*, was soon follow'd by the King of *Spain's* Accession to the Quadruple Alliance; but tho' the Instrument of his Acceptation of the Term stipulated by that Treaty, was sign'd in *January* 1720, and the Treaty itself sign'd the Beginning of *February* following by the Marquess *de Beretti Landi*, the Catholick King's Plenipotentiary at the *Hague*, the Treaty for a Suspension of Arms, and

and for the Evacuation of *Sicily* and *Sardinia*, met with so many Difficulties, that it was not perfected, till the 8th of *May* following. That Treaty was punctually executed; the whole Kingdom of *Sicily* deliver'd to the Imperialists; that of *Sardinia* to the Plenipotentiary of the Court of *Turin*, and the *Spanish* Troops from both those Kingdoms transported back to *Spain*. Thus ended the fatal War that had been kindled by the Counsels and Artifices of an ambitious Cardinal, whose Designs having miscarry'd, he was forc'd to make his Escape from *Genoa*, and has been skulking ever since to avoid the just Resentments of several Princes, particularly of the King of *Spain*, whom he had unwarily engag'd into those pernicious Measures. All we shall observe upon this *Sicilian* War is only this, that as it would have been impossible for the Imperialists to land a sufficient Army in that Kingdom to make a Conquest thereof, so long as the *Spaniards* had a Fleet to oppose them; so it must be granted, that the Reduction of that Island, and of *Sardinia* too, was chiefly, if not entirely owing to the vigorous Interpositions of *Great Britain*.

The *South* being thus pacify'd, the War seems to be almost brought to an End in the *North*; and this too by the Interposition of his *Britannick* Majesty: For the Treaty of Peace between the Kings of *Sweden* and *Denmark*, and that between his *Swedish* Majesty and the King of *Russia*, were concluded by the friendly Mediation of the King of *Great Britain*, and faithfully executed. And as the Designs of the *Russians* against *Sweden* have been prevented by the *British* Fleet, 'tis probable the Czar will no longer persist in his Refusal to put an End to the Northern War. He seems indeed, to be in a Condition to hold out many Years upon the Defensive; but of what other Avail will that be to him, than to see his Fleet, in which he takes so much Delight, become the Prey of Worms in his Harbours, and his Subjects ruin'd for want of Commerce. This being the inevitable Consequence of the Continuation of the War in the *North*, 'tis not likely that the Czar, who has hitherto had the Reputation of a wise and prudent Prince, will persist in Measures that may prove destructive to him, but

but will rather endeavour to extricate himself out of those Difficulties with Honour; of which there is the greater Appearance, inasmuch as his Czarish Majesty seems at this Time to have accepted the Mediation of France, for putting an End to the Northern Troubles.

The Affairs of Religion in the Empire were another important Article of the preceeding Year. The Complaints of the Protestants seem to have been just and well-grounded; and the Princes of that Communion having proceeded to Reprisals, there was Reason to fear, that the Influence of the Court of *Rome*, and of the Clergy of that Church, would have prevented the equitable Dispositions of the Emperor, and so have had an open Rupture. But notwithstanding the seemingly insuperable Difficulties, the Interposition and good Offices of his *Britannick* Majesty, of the King of *Prussia*, and of the States General, have been so successful, that Part of the Protestant's Grievances have been already redressed, and solemn Assurances given, that all Things shall speedily be restored, according to the Treaty of *Westphalia*, the true Basis and Foundation of the Civil and Religious Liberties of *Germany*. Thus a Religious War in the Empire has been prevented, and the future Peace thereof seems to be secured.

Poland has afforded no other [material Transactions the last Year, than the Meeting and unsuccessful Breaking up of two successive Diets, without coming to any Resolution on the great Matters that were laid before them. The Prerogatives of the General of the Crown, being invaded by the Post given to Count Fleming Veldt - Marshal of the Foreign Forces, was made the Pretence of the Separation of those Diets; but many rather imputed the true Reason of it to be the Umbrage which the Poles, had taken of some Designs that were hatching against their Liberty; which seems the more probable, because notwithstanding that the King of *Poland* found Means of working an Accommodation between his Generals, the Poles seem still dissatisfy'd, and pretend that that Reconcilement having been made without the Parti-

cipation of the Diet, is invalid, and contrary to the Constitutions of the Kingdom. Thus the Affairs of *Ioland* seem still in a very unsettled Condition.

The Affairs of *France* have had for some Time past, and indeed still have, a very gloomy Aspect. The Plague has destroy'd one of their most flourishing Cities, and still rages in several others of *Provence*; and the Overthrow of that enchanted Machine, call'd *Mississippi*, *Royal Bank*, and *India Company*, has occasion'd an unspeakable Confusion throughout that Kingdom. Happy had it been for *Great Britain*, if this last Plague, this Bubbling Contagion, which has been so fatal to *France*, had, like that other Divine Scourge, kept within the Bounds of that Country; then the *South Sea Scheme*, and some other Projects, would not have occasion'd the unhappy Turn of Affairs, which have so much affected the publick Credit at Home, that *England* never was reduced to so deplorable a Condition. History does not furnish us with any Instance of the like Disaster; and all that has been hitherto done, seems insufficient to restore the publick Credit of the Nation. The exemplary Punishment of some of the Directors, and others who have brought this Calamity upon the Nation, will not, 'tis fear'd, stop the loud Cries of the Sufferers, unless Means be found at the same Time, to restore to them their Estates, of which they have been so barbarously plunder'd; otherwise the many Thousands of Families, that are entirely ruin'd, will have Reason to say, that in this Particular, they are at least as ill treated in *England*, as they could have been any where else.

Moneys advanc'd and paid off in the *Exchequer*, on the following Funds, to *December 23, 1720.*

<i>Int.</i>	<i>Exchequer.</i>	<i>Advanc'd.</i>	<i>Paid off.</i>	<i>Numb.</i>
4	7th 3 Shilling Aid	1410000	1377092	2102
4	8th 3 Shilling Aid	1410000	561411	680
6	Hops	180000	173778	681
4	Malt 1719	700000	552194	1115
4	Malt 1718 to 1720	700000	582000	77500
4	Coals	228787	183843	980116
				689

All the Benefits in the Lottery 1710, that are unscrib'd, and due the 25th of March, 1720, are in Course of Payment.

India Company pay their Dividend to Christmas last.

India Books shut the 15th of March, to chuse new Directors, and open the 6th of April.

F I N I S.



THE
Historical Register.

 NUMBER XXII.

GREAT BRITAIN.

*The Proceedings of the Parliament continu'd from Page 78
 of the preceding Register.*



ON the 2d of *March*, the Commons order'd that *Sir George Caswal*, should attend in his Place the next Morning: After which Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, that the Lord Chief Baron of the Court of *Exchequer* had, that Morning, deliver'd up to him a Duplicate of the Inventory or Particular of the Estate of *William Tillard Esq;* one of the late Directors of the *South-Sea Company*, which he deliver'd to the Clerk. After this the Call of the House was put off to that Day *Sevensnight*; and the ingros'd Bill to enable the *South-Sea Company* to ingraft Part of their Capital Stock and Fund into the Stock and Fund of the Bank of England, and another Part thereof into the Stock and Fund of the *East India Company*, &c. was read the third Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords.

March 3. Being appointed to take into farther Consideration the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, with Relation to *Sir George Caswal*, the Serjeant at Arms was order'd to summon the Members in the Places adjacent, to attend the Service of the House; and *Sir George Caswal* attending in his Place, the three Examinations of *Daniel Watkins*, Clerk to *Elias Turner*, *Jacob Sawbridge*, Esq; and Company, taken before

N

fore the Committee of Secrecy, were read ; after which *Jacob Sawbridge*, Senior, Esq; was examin'd; as were also *Daniel Watkins* and *John Clerk*. After this *Sir George Caswal* was heard in his Place, and being withdrawn, it was resolv'd, ' That it appears to ' this House, that *Sir George Caswal* Knight, and one ' of the Copartners of *Turner* and Company, and a ' Member of this House, did, on or about the 14th ' Day of *December*, 1720 (after this House had begun ' to enquire into the Conduct of the late Directors ' of the *South-Sea* Company) order *Daniel Watkins*, ' one of the Book Keepers of the said *Turner* and Com- ' pany, to erase, in several Places of the Books of the ' said *Turner* and Company, the Name of *Stanhope*, and ' to make the same *Stangape*, which was accordingly ' done. Another Question being propos'd, in Rela- ' tion to the said *Sir George Caswal*, the Serjeant at ' Arms was directed to acquaint him, that he might ' come again into the House, which *Sir George* did, ' and desir'd farther Time, to summon several Wit- ' nesses to be examin'd: Whereupon the farther Con- ' sideration of the Report from the Committee of Se- ' crecy was put off to the *Monday* following.

March 4. The Commons order'd their Speaker to issue his Warrant for a new Writ, for electing a Bur- ' gess for *Tregony*, in *Cornwal*, in the Room of the late ' Mr. Secretary *Craggs*; after which the ingross'd *Bill* ' for *punishing Mutiny and Desertion*, &c. was read the ' 3d Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords.

March 6. Mr. Speaker laid before the House, the Duplicate of the Inventory or Particular of the Estate of *Francis Eyles* Esq; one of the late Directors of the *South-Sea* Company, which the Lord Chief Baron of the *Exchequer* had that Morning, deliver'd to him; and then, in a Grand Committee, the Commons took into Consideration the Representation from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, relating to the Prohibition of Callicoes; and having made some Progress in that Matter, put it off till the 10th. They also adjourn'd to the 8th, the farther Consideration of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy; and in the mean Time, order'd, a Copy of the Warrant of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, to the Auditor of the Receipt, to make forth new *Exchequer Bills* for the Million of Money lent to the *South-Sea* Company; the Memorial of the

South-Sea Company, relating to the issuing of *Exchequer Bills*, by Way of Loan to the said Company, the Warrant for issuing out the said *Exchequer Bills*, the *South-Sea Company's Securities* for Repayment of the said *Exchequer Bills*; and the several Books of Draughts of Money made by Mr. Knight, late Cashier of the *South-Sea Company*, on the Bank of England, to be laid before the House. They also order'd Sir John Fellows, Mr. Charles Joye, Sir John Blunt, Bart. Richard Holditch Esq; and several other Persons to attend the House on the 8th.

March 7. Mr. Kelsal laid Before the Commons several Papers that had been call'd for, relating to the *South-Sea Company*; after which Sir John Blunt, was order'd to be brought, and Mr. Surman, Mr. James Testard, Mr. Joseph Stanburgh, Mr. Edward Poulter, Mr. Daniel Watkins, Mr. John Clerk, Mr. John Mount, Mr. Edward Owen, Mr. William Bowles, Mr. Falconbridge (Book-keeper to Matthew Weymondfold) Thomas Weddall, and Edmund Waller, to attend the House upon the 9th. It was also order'd, that the Transfer Book of the *South-Sea Company*, (Letter S) of the 18th of February 1719; and the Book containing the Accounts of Francis Hawes Esq; one of the late Directors of the *South-Sea Company*, refer'd to in the second Report from the Committee of Secrecy, be laid before the House the next Morning; after which the House proceeded to the hearing the Matter touching the Election for the Borough of Cricklade, in Wiltshire, and having heard Council, and examin'd Witnesses on both Sides, it was resolv'd, that the Honourable Matthew Ducey Morton Esq; was duly elected for the said Borough.

March 8. Mr. Fox, from the Auditor of the *Exchequer's Office*, and Mr. Lockyer, from the *South-Sea Company*, laid before the House, several Papers that had been call'd for.

Then the Order of the Day being read, for taking into farther Consideration the Reports from the Committee of Secrecy; those Parts of the first of the said Reports which related to John Aislaby, Esq; (a Member of this House) were read; and then the second Report from the said Committee was read; and a Letter from the said Mr. Aislaby to Mr. Weymondfold, dated 1st March 1719; and also, several Examinations of Mr. Weymondfold before the said Committee;

mittee; and the Examination of Mr. *Robert Surman* taken the thirty first of *January* last; and the Examination of Mr. *Francis Hawes* before the said Committee, taken the twenty fourth of *February* last, were read. Afterwards Sir *John Fellows*, Mr. *Charles Joye*, Mr. *Hawes*, Sir *John Blunt*, Mr. *Holditch*, Mr. *Gibbon*, and Mr. *Chester*, were severally call'd in, and examin'd. Then the Examination of Mr. *Hawes*, taken the 31st of *January* last, before the said Committee, was read; and Mr. *Hawes* was call'd in and examin'd. Then the Examination of Mr. *Robert Surman*, taken before the said Committee the 7th Day of *March* last, was read; and he was call'd in and examin'd, and prov'd an Account of *South-Sea Stock* bought by Mr. *Knight* for Mr. *Aislaby*; which Account was read; and after Mr. *Weymondfold* had been examin'd, the Examination of Sir *Theodore Janssen*, taken before the said Committee the 20th and 26th Days of *January* last; and the Examination of Sir *Lambert Plackwell*, taken before the said Committee the 25th Day of *January* last, were read. Afterwards Mr. *Gibbon*, Sir *John Fellows*, and Mr. *Joye*, were again severally call'd in and examin'd. And then the Examination of Mr. *Knight*, taken the 17th Day of *January* last; and the Examination of Sir *John Blunt*, taken before the said Committee, the 14th of *January* last; the Copy of the Warrant for making forth new *Exchequer Bills* for one Million; and also, the Copy of the Memorial from the *South-Sea Company*, relating to the issuing of *Exchequer Bills* by Way of Loan to the said Company, were read: And afterwards Sir *John Fellows* and Sir *John Blunt*, were again severally call'd in and examin'd.

The reading of the Papers, and the Examination of the Persons abovemention'd, lasted till about nine a-clock in the Evening; after which Mr. *Aislaby* made a long, submissive, and pathetick Speech, in his own Defence; but what was depos'd against him by Mr. *Hawes*, viz. That he had caus'd the Book of Accounts between them to be burnt, and given him a Discharge for the Ballance amounting to about 842,000 l. appear'd so heinous; and so home a Proof, that after he was withdrawn, the House came to the following unanimous Resolutions, viz.

Resolv'd, *Nemine Contradicente*, 1. That it appears to this House, that 22000 Pounds *South-Sea Stock* was

was bought by Mr. *Robert Knight*, late Cashier of the *South-Sea Company*, upon the 3d and 19th Days of *December 1719*, for the Use and on the Account of *John Aislaby*, Esq; (a Member of this House) then Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the *Exchequer*, and one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury.

II. That from the 30th Day of *January, 1719*, to the 4th Day of *March* following inclusive, 70000 *l.* *South-Sea Stock* was transacted by Mr. *Matthew Weymondfold*, Broker, by the Direction and on the Account of the said *John Aislaby*, Esq;

III. That 20000 *l.* *South-Sea Stock*, part of the said 70000 *l.* Stock, was deliver'd to Mr. *Matthew Weymondfold* Broker, on the 12th Day of *February 1719*, by *Robert Surman* late Deputy Cashier of the *South-Sea Company* at the Rate of 130 *l.* per Cent. by Direction of *Robert Knight*, late Cashier of the said Company, for the Use and Benefit of the said *John Aislaby*, Esq;

IV. That several Parcels of *South-Sea Stock*, part of the said 70000 *l.* Stock, amounting to 20000 *l.* Stock for 35357 *l.* 10s. were bought by *Matthew Weymondfold* Broker, on the 1st Day of *March 1719*, by the Order of the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; and that the said 20000 *l.* Stock was deliver'd by the said *Matthew Weymondfold* on the 4th Day of *March 1719*, to *Robert Knight*, late Cashier of the *South-Sea Company*, for the Use and Benefit of the said Mr. *Aislaby*; and that the said *Robert Knight* did then pay the said 35357 *l.* 10s. for the same.

V. That the aforesaid 20000 *l.* *South-Sea Stock*, was Stock taken in and held by the said *Robert Knight*, for the Benefit of the said *John Aislaby* Esq; after the Proposals of the *South-Sea Company* were accepted by this House, and a Bill order'd to be brought in thereupon, without any Money paid or Security given by the said Mr. *Aislaby* for the said Stock.

VI. That the taking in and holding the said 20000 *l.* *South-Sea Stock*, by the said *Robert Knight*, with the Privacy and for the Benefit of the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; was a most notorious, dangerous, and intamous Corruption in the said Mr. *Aislaby*.

VII. That it appears to this House, that between the 20th Day of *March 1720*, and the 21st Day of *November* following, there was an Account between *Turner and Company*, and *Edmund Waller*, Son-in-Law of

of the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; amounting in the whole to the Sum of 794451 *l.* 15 *s.* 9 *d.* and that there was also an Account of *South-Sea* Stock depending between the said *Turner* and Company, and the said *Mr. Waller*, on the Ballance of which last mention'd Account there was 77600 *l.* due from the said *Turner* and Company, for the securing whereof the said *Turner* and Company, entred into Bonds the 26th of *November* last, for twelve Months from the 24th Day of *September* then past, viz. One Bond for 44600 *l.* to the said *Edmund Waller*, and one other Bond to *Thomas Weddall*, Esq; for 33000 *l.* in Trust for the said *John Aislaby*.

VIII. That the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; was privy to, and did approve and consent, that the Million of *Exchequer* Bills lent by the Treasury to the *South-Sea* Company should be lent out by the said Company upon their Stock, and accordingly the same was done.

IX. That the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; at a Meeting with the late Sub-Governor and several of the Directors of the *South-Sea* Company, did advise the taking in the first Money Subscription at 300 *l.* per Cent. and agreed to promote the same.

X. That the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; gave in a List to the late Directors of the *South-Sea* Company, of the Names of Persons to be admitted into the third Money Subscription at 1000 *l.* per Cent. for several Sums of Money amounting to 75300 *l.* and did thereby promote and encourage the said Subscription.

XI. That the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; has encouraged and promoted the dangerous and destructive Execution of the late *South-Sea* Scheme, with a View to his own exorbitant Profit; and has combin'd with the late Directors of the *South-Sea* Company in their pernicious Practices, to the Detriment of great Numbers of his Majesty's Subjects, and the Ruin of the publick Credit and the Trade of this Kingdom.

XII. That the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; be for his said Offences expelled this House.

Then it was order'd, that the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; be committed Prisoner to his Majesty's Tower of *London*; and that *Mr. Speaker* do issue his Warrant accordingly.

And that Leave be given to bring in a Bill for restraining *John Aislaby*, Esq; from going out of this Kingdom for the Space of one Year, and until the End of the next Session of Parliament, and for discovering

ing his Estate and Effects, and for preventing the transporting or alienating the same; and that Mr. *Hutcheson* and the Master of the Rolls do prepare and bring in the same.

The House having sat till past twelve at Night, the farther Consideration of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, was put off till the 10th, when Sir *George Caswal*, and several other Persons were order'd to attend; and then the House adjourn'd to that Day.

March 10. The Commons order'd their Serjeant at Arms to take Care, that no Footmen be permitted to be within the Lobby of the House, or upon the Stairs leading there; and that he should, from Time to Time, call the Constables in waiting to his Assistance, to see this Order executed. Then some of the Commissioners of the Customs presented to the House a Report from the said Commissioners concerning the *East-India Trade*, after which the Call of the House was farther adjourn'd to the *Thursday* following; and order'd, that such Members as should not then attend, be sent for in Custody of the Serjeant at Arms. Then the House proceeded to take into farther Consideration the Reports from the Committee of Secrecy; and that Part of the first Report, which relates to 50000 *l.* *South-Sea Stock*, taken in and held by *Robert Knight* for the Use of *Elias Turner*, *Jacob Sawbridge*, and Sir *George Caswal* (a Member of this House) was read; as was also a Transfer (in the *South-Sea Company's Transfer Book*) dated the 18th of *February* 1719. And Mr. *Robert Surmah*, Mr. *Tessard*, and Mr. *Poulter*, were severally call'd in and examin'd. Then the Examination of Mr. *Joseph Stanburgh*, taken before the said Committee the 21st of *January* 1720, was read; and he was call'd in and examin'd. Then several Books of *Turner and Company*, viz. the Stock-Ledger F. fo. 86, *Jos. Stokes's* Account of the 11th of *June* 1720; the drawing Cash-Ledger fo. 1, 759, of the 11th of *June* 1720; and the Stock-Ledger G. fo. 1 for the Account of *Sawbridge and Company*, were read. Then Mr. *Mount* was call'd in, and produc'd the Night Cash-Book of *Turner and Company*, for the 10th and 12th Days of *December* 1720, which was read, and he was examin'd. Then the Examination of Mr. *Jacob Sawbridge, Senior*, taken before the Committee of Secrecy the 20th Day of

of *January* last; and also *Mr. Knight's* Examination, taken before the said Committee the 21st Day of *January* last, were read. And then *Mr. Surman* was again call'd in and examin'd. And then *Mr. Elias Turner*; and *Mr. John Mount* were severally call'd in and examin'd; and the Cash-Book of *Turner* and Company of the 18th of *February* last 1719, was read.

After this, *Sir George Caswal* was heard in his Place, and, in his Defence alledg'd, 'That he had made a lawful Bargain for the Stock in Question with *Mr. Knight*, and had several Times offer'd to pay the Value of it, but was put off, from Time to Time by *Mr. Knight*, who told him, he was not at Leisure to make up Accounts with him; and that *Mr. Knight* had sufficient Security in his Hands.' To prove which *Sir George* call'd several Witnesses. Hereupon three or four Members spoke in his behalf, and among other Things said, they were satisfy'd he had given sufficient Security: But the Question being put whether he had or not. It was carry'd in the Negative by 227 Voices against 92.

Then *Sir George Caswal* stood up again, and express'd his great Sorrow, 'That he had the Misfortune to fall under the Displeasure of the House; which lay the more heavy upon him, because he was not conscious of any Crime, unless it were the extraordinary Zeal and Affection he had shewn for the Support of the present happy Settlement, having assisted the Government with vast Sums of Money, at three *per Cent.* when they could get it no where else: For the Truth of which he appeal'd to the Members of the House, who were then Commissioners of the Treasury. Hereupon *Mr. Clayton* stood up and witness'd to the Truth of his Allegation: But his past Services not being thought a sufficient Atone-ment for the great Share he had in the fraudulent Management of the *South-Sea* Scheme, after he was withdrawn, the House came to the following Resolutions, *viz.*

I. That it appears to this House, that during the Time the Bill for enabling the *South-Sea* Company, to enlarge their Capital Stock and Fund was depending in Parliament, 50000 *l.* Stock, being Part of the 574500 *l.* fictitious Stock, entred in the Cash-Book of the Company as sold for 1259325 *l.* was taken in or held by *Robert Knight*, late Cashier of the said Company;

Company, for *Elias Turner*, *Jacob Sawbridge*, and *Sir George Caswal*, (a Member of this House) without any valuable Consideration paid, or sufficient Security given, for the Acceptance of, or Payment for, such Stock.

II. That it appears to this House by the Books of the said *Turner* and Company, and the Examinations now before this House, that there was a clear Profit of 250000*l.* made of the said 50000*l.* Stock, so taken in or held as aforesaid.

III. That the said *Sir George Caswal*, by concurring with his Partners the said *Elias Turner*, and *Jacob Sawbridge*, in having the said 50000*l.* Stock taken in or held as aforesaid, has been Guilty of a corrupt, infamous and dangerous Practice, highly reflecting on the Honour and Justice of Parliament, and destructive to the Interest of his Majesty's Government.

IV. That the said *Sir George Caswal*, be, for his said Offence, expell'd this House.

V. That the said *Sir George Caswal* be committed Prisoner to his Majesty's Tower of London; and that Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrants accordingly.

VI. That the Estates Real and Personal of the said *Sir George Caswal*, *Jacob Sawbridge*, and *Elias Turner*, be subject and liable to answer and make good to the *South-Sea Company* the aforesaid Sum of 250000*l.* which was the advanc'd Price on the 11th Day of June 1720, of the said 50000*l.* Stock, over and above the Sum of 5000*l.* paid to the said Company for the same.

Then it was order'd, that a Bill be brought in pursuant to the said Resolutions, and that Mr. Brodrick, the Lord *Molesworth*, Mr. *Hutcheson*, and Mr. *Ward*, do prepare and bring in the same; after which the farther Consideration of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy was put off to the 14th.

March 13. (To which Day the House had adjourn'd) the Commons order'd their Speaker to issue out his Warrants for two new Writs, one for electing a Burgess for *Leominster* in the County of *Hereford*, in the Room of *Sir George Caswal*, Knight, expell'd the House; the other for electing a Citizen for the City of *Edinburgh*, in the Room of *Sir George Warrender* Bart. deceased; and then the Bill for regulating the *Journey-men Taylors*, within the Weekly Bills of Mortality, was read the 2d Time, and committed.

March 14.

March 14. Mr. *Hutcheson* presented to the House, A Bill for restraining *John Aislavie Esq;* from going out of this Kingdom &c. and for discovering his Estate and Effects, &c. which was read the first Time, and order'd to be read a second. Then the Serjeant at Arms having summon'd the Members, in the adjacent Places, to attend the Service of the House, the Commons proceeded to take into farther Consideration the Report from the Committee of Secrecy: And the House being mov'd, that a Part of the said Report relating to the Earl of *Sunderland*, might be read; the same was read accordingly. His Lordship's Friends, not expecting that he would be so soon attack'd, appear'd somewhat surpriz'd; and thereupon mov'd, and struggled hard, for adjourning the Consideration of that Part of the said Report till the next Morning; which was at last agreed to; and Sir *John Fellows*, Bart. *Charles Joye*, Esq; Sir *John Blunt*, Bart. *Edward Gibbon*, Esq; *Robert Chester* Esq; and Mr. *Robert Surman*, were then order'd to attend.

March 15. The Commons proceeded in the adjourn'd Consideration of that Part of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy which related to the Earl of *Sunderland*; and the several Examinations of Sir *John Blunt*, Mr. *Edward Gibbon*, Mr. *Charles Joye*, *James Craggs*, Esq; Mr. *Richard Holditch*, Mr. *John Webster*, Mr. *Robert Surman*, Sir *Lambert Blackwell*, Mr. *Francis Hawes*, Mr. *William Astle*, Sir *John Fellows*, and Sir *Theodore Janssen*, taken before the said Committee, were read; and afterwards Mr. *Joye*, Mr. *Gibbon*, Mr. *Chester*, Mr. *Holditch*, and Mr. *Surman*, were severally call'd in, and examin'd.

Then a Motion was made, that it appears to the House, that, after the Proposals of the *South-Sea Company* were accepted by this House, and a Bill order'd to be brought in thereupon, and before such Bill pass'd, 50000 l. of the Capital Stock of the *South-Sea Company* was taken in by *Robert Knight*, late Cashier of the said Company, for the Use, and upon the Account of *Charles Earl of Sunderland*, a Lord of Parliament, and first Commissioner of the Treasury, without any valuable Consideration paid, or sufficient Security given, for Payment for, or Acceptance of the same.

This Motion occasion'd a warm Debate that lasted till near eight a-clock in the Evening, but the Question

tion being put thereupon, it was carry'd in the Negative by a Majority of 233 Votes against 172: Which, however, occasion'd various Reasonings and Reflections. That ticklish Affair being over, the Commons put off the farther Consideration of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, till the *Friday* following.

March 16. Upon a Complaint of the great Rudeness of Footmen, and of their Disobedience to the Orders which had been made concerning them; the Serjeant at Arms was order'd immediately to go and take into his Custody all such Footmen as he should find in the Lobby of the House, or upon the Stairs leading thereto; and that he should from Time to Time, take into his Custody such Footmen as should presume to disobey the Orders of the House: And it was also order'd, that no such Footmen be discharg'd out of Custody, but by the special Order of the House. After this, according to the Order of the Day, the House was call'd over; and the Names of such Members as made Default to appear were noted down, and it was order'd, that the same be call'd over on that Day Sevensnight.

On the 17th of *March*, the House being inform'd, that the Serjeant at Arms had, pursuant to the Order of the Day before, taken into his Custody several Footmen, either in the Lobby or on the Stairs leading thereto. It was order'd that the said Footmen be discharg'd out of Custody, making reasonable Satisfaction to the Serjeant at Arms for the Charges of their Confinement. Then the Order of the Day being read, for the House to take into farther Consideration the Report from the Committee of Secrecy, Mr. *Hutcheson* represented, ' That it was impossible ' to proceed in so important an Affair, without exposing the Justice of Parliament to be baffled, as it ' had been in some late Instances, so long as they ' wanted so material a Witness as Mr. *Robert Knight*: ' And therefore he mov'd, and, being seconded, it was resolv'd, *Nemine Contradicente*, that an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, humbly to desire his Majesty that he would be pleas'd to impart to this House, the Advices his Majesty has receiv'd, or shall receive, from Abroad, concerning his gracious Endeavours to bring over *Robert Knight*, late Cashier of the *South-Sea Company*, to answer to the Justice

of the Kingdom: Which Address was order'd to be presented by such Members of the House as were of his Majesty's most honourable Privy-Council. It was by many conjectur'd, that the *Remora* that hindred Mr. Knight's coming over, was rather in *London* than in *Vienna* or *Brussels*: But be that as it will, the Commons having in the mean Time, no great Business before them, adjourn'd themselves to the 20th.

It was generally expected, that on *Friday* the 7th, the Commons would have proceeded to that Part of the Report from the Committee of Secrecy which related to *James Craggs* Senior Esq; but whether the Terror of his approaching Trial, or the Loss of a beloved Son, for whom he had been amassing vast Heaps of Riches, cast a Damp upon his Spirits, he dy'd the Day before, about ten a-clock at Night, in a Lethargick Fit; leaving behind him an Estate valued at one Million and a half, to be divided among his three Daughters; who are marry'd to three Members of Parliament, viz. Mr. *Trefusis*, Mr. *Newsham*, and Mr. *Elliot*.

To proceed: On the 20th of *March*, the Commons order'd their Speaker to issue his Warrant for a new Writ for the electing a Burgess for the Borough of *Rippon*, in *York shire*, in the Room of *John Aislacie*, Esq; expell'd the House. Then Mr. Controller acquainted the Commons, that their Address, relating to Mr. Knight, having been presented to the King, his Majesty had commanded him to lay before the House, several Letters and Papers containing Advices from *Flanders* concerning him (with a Schedule of them) and, at the same Time, to acquaint the House, that his Majesty had not receiv'd any Advice of Colonel *Burchill's* being got to *Vienna*, nor any Letter from thence relating to Mr. Knight; that as soon as any should come to his Majesty, they should be laid before the House: Whereupon several Letters from Mr. *Leathes*, his Majesty's Resident at *Brussels*, to the Secretary of State, were read, importing in Substance, That pursuant to his Orders he had made the most pressing Instances with the Marquess *de Prie*, for the delivering up of Mr. Knight: But had been answer'd that the said Marquess had not receiv'd any Instructions from *Vienna* about that Matter; that, in the mean Time, he was apprehensive that the same would meet with great Difficulties. That the *Greffier*,

or Secretary, of the States of *Brabant*, had been twice with the said Marquess, to represent to him, that according to one of the Articles of the *Joyful Entry* of *Brabant*, which was granted them by the Emperor *Charles V.* and has been sworn to by all his Successors (and which they look upon as their *Magna Charta*) no Person charg'd with, or apprehended for any Crime, can be remov'd to be try'd out of their Province; and that the Deputies of the States insisted upon that Article, of which the Resident had enclos'd a Copy in *French*, which was also read in the House.

Most of the Members appear'd surpriz'd at the unexpected Difficulty about the delivering up Mr. *Knight*, which was started, in the Name of the States of *Brabant*; and the Lord *Moleworth* among others said thereupon: That 'twas to be hop'd, they should have a more satisfactory Answer from *Vienna*, than they had from *Brussels*: But if they had not, it would, in his Opinion, be proper to call for the Treaties lately enter'd into with the House of *Austria*, to know upon what Motives we have been at so great an Expence of Blood and Treasure, and have sent our Men of War to war and be worm-eaten in the *Mediterranean*, to conquer Kingdoms for the Emperor? Adding, that if that pretended Priviledge of the States of *Brabant*, should be insisted upon, they might remove that Obstacle, by addressing his Majesty to grant his Pardon to Mr. *Knight*, in Order to have him brought-over: But that it was proper not to make any farther Step in that Affair, till they were acquainted with the Success of Colonel *Churchill's* Negotiation at *Vienna*. Then Mr. *Farrer* reported the Resolution of the Committee of the whole House, upon the Petition of Merchants and Makers of Herrings in *Great Yarmouth*, viz. That the taking off the Duty upon all Salt us'd in the curing and making of Red-Herrings, and instead thereof laying a proportionable Duty upon all Red-Herrings consum'd at Home only, will be a Service to the Makers and Curers of Red-Herrings, and no Prejudice to the Revenue.

March 21. Mr. *Westcomb*, Secretary to the *South-Sea Company*, presented to the Commons, the Resolutions of the General Court of the said Company, held the 9th and 18th Days of *March* Instant, relating to the four Money-Subscriptions. Then, after the reading of the several

several Petitions, the Commons, in a grand Committee, consider'd farther of the Representation from the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, relating to the Prohibition of Calicoes; and came to several Resolutions.

On the 22^d Mr. Controller acquainted the Commons, That his Majesty having, the Day before, receiv'd a Letter from Colonel *Churchill*, directed to the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, dated *Vienna* the 4th of *March*, 1720-21, had commanded him (pursuant to the Address of the House) to lay a Copy thereof before the House; which Mr. Controller presented to the House accordingly. The Copy of that Letter was thereupon read, importing in Substance; that he was just arriv'd at *Vienna*, and would not lose one Moment, in making the most pressing Instances to the imperial Court, for the delivering up of Mr. *Knight*; and that he did not doubt Success, unless the Privileges of the States of *Brabant* interfer'd: Several smart Reflections were made (particularly by the Lord *Molesworth*) upon the frivolous Pretence that was made use of, to baffle his Majesty's gracious Endeavours to bring over Mr. *Knight*: But the House did not think fit to come to any Resolution thereupon; and then, in a Grand Committee went through the Bill for the better establishing of publick Credit, by preventing, for the future, the infamous Practice of Stock Jobbing. The same Evening Colonel *Churchill* arriv'd from *Vienna*, which being known the next Morning, occasion'd a general Surprize.

March 22. Mr *Farrar* reported to the Commons, the Resolutions of the Grand Committee, upon the Representation of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, relating to the Prohibition of Calicoes, &c. viz.

I. That the carrying on of any Trade by his Majesty's Subjects to the *East-India* under foreign Commissions, or in Conjunction with Foreigners, is of pernicious Consequence to the Commerce and Welfare of this Kingdom, and that an effectual Stop ought to be put thereto.

II. That the clandestine putting of unlicens'd Goods on Board any Outward-bound *East-India* Ships, and the taking any such Goods out of the Homeward bound Ships, is a mischievous Practice, and highly detrimental and injurious to his Majesty's Customs.

III. That

III. That the allowing the Importation of Tea by Certificates from *Ostend*, and other foreign Places, not being the Place of its Growth, tends to promote the illegal Trade carry'd on by his Majesty's Subjects to the *East-Indies* under foreign Commissions, and in Conjunction with Foreigners, and is very prejudicial to the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom.

IV. That it will be for the Benefit of the Trade of this Kingdom, that the Time given for Drawbacks for all Goods, and Merchandizes imported, and afterwards exported, be enlarg'd.

V. That it will be for the Benefit of the Trade of this Kingdom, that the Time given the *East-India* Company for their Discounts, and others Allowances, be enlarg'd.

VI. That the *East-India* Company be allow'd to ship out Stores, Provisions, and Necessaries for maintaining their Garrisons and Settlements, free of all Duties: And it was order'd, that a Bill be brought in pursuant to the said Resolutions.

Then the House proceeded to call over the Names of such Members as made Default to appear upon the Call of the House on the 16th, and several of their Names were call'd over, and many of them appear'd, and others were excus'd: But while the Commons were busie about this Affair, they were sent for up, by the Gentleman Usher of the *Black Rod*, to attend the King in the House of Lords, where his Majesty being come with the usual State and Solemnity, the Royal Assent was given to the following Bills, viz.

An Act to enable the South-Sea Company to ingraft part of their Capital Stock and Fund into the Stock and Fund of the Bank of England, and another Part thereof into the Stock and Fund of the East-India Company, and for giving farther Time for Payment to be made by the said South-Sea Company to the Use of the Publick,

An Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters.

An Act to preserve and encourage the Woollen and Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for the more effectual employing the Poor, by prohibiting the Use and Wear of all printed, painted, stained or dy'd Callicoes in Apparel, Household Stuff, Furniture or otherwise, after the 25th Day of December 1722, (except as therein excepted.)

An Act for the better Preservation of the Harbour of Rye in the County of Sussex.

An Act for finishing and adorning the new Chapel call'd St. George's Chapel in Great Yarmouth in the County of Norfolk, and for enlightning the Streets of the said Town, by a Duty or Imposition on Coals, Culm, and Ginders, to be landed and consum'd there.

An Act for making the River Weaver Navigable, from Frodsham Bridge to Winsford Bridge in the County of Chester.

An Act for enlarging the Time for making the River Kennet Navigable, from Reading to Newbury in the County of Berks.

An Act to inclose the common Field of Lighthorne, and a Common call'd Lighthorne-Heath, in the County of Warwick.

An Act for draining, improving, and inclosing the Common call'd Stocksby Common, in the Parish of Stoksbay in the County of Norfolk.

An Act to enable the Right Honourable Heneage Earl of Ailesford to sell certain Estates of leasehold and Inheritance in the County of Kent, compris'd in his Marriage-Settlement, and to purchase another Estate in the County of Leicester, of better Value, to be settled to the same Uses.

An Act for the Naturalizing of Isabella Countess of Denbigh Wife of William Earl of Denbigh.

An Act for Naturalizing John Hartcup.

An Act for Naturalizing Gilbert de Flines, Christian Frederick Zincke, and others.

The Commons being return'd to their House, proceeded to call over the rest of the Names of such Members as made Default to appear on the 10th, and order'd Charles Parker Esq; to be taken into the Custody of the Serjeant at Arms; and that the House be call'd over again upon the next Day three Weeks.

March 24. Several Members had Leave to go into the Country, either for Recovery of Health, or upon extraordinary Occasions: And then the Honourable Henry Berkeley Esq; one of the Knights of the Shire for the County of Gloucester, presented to the Commons a Petition of the Grand-Jury, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen, and Freeholders, of the County of Gloucester, at the Assizes held the 11th Day of *March 1720* and also of the Mayor, and Aldermen, and Grand-Jury of the City of Gloucester, which was read, complaining of the mischievous Effects which the Trade of the Nation, and particularly the clothing Manufacture

Manufactures of the said County lie under, by the treacherous Practices and Mismanagement of the late Directors of the *South-Sea* Company, or most of them, and their Accomplices, as well as by the fatal Stroke thereby given to the publick Credit of the Nation; and praying, that this House would proceed to bring such Offenders to Justice, and take such other Methods therein, as they in their great Wisdom should think proper. This Petition was order'd to lie on the Table, and after the dispatching of some private Affairs, Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrant for a New Writ for the electing a Knight of the Shire for the County of *Rutland*, in the Room of the Right Honourable *John Manners*, Esq; (commonly call'd Marquess of *Granby*) now Duke of *Rutland*, call'd up to the House of Peers. Then Mr. ~~Far-~~ *Far-* reported the Amendments made to the ~~Bill~~ *for preventing the infamous Practice of Stock-Jobbing*, which being agreed to, the said Bill was order'd to be ingrossed. Colonel *Churchill* being come into the House, of which he is a Member, it was expected that an Account of his Negotiations, would, that Day, have been laid before the Commons: But they were only given to understand, that as soon as the Dispatches he brought from *Vienna* could be translated, they should be laid before the House, who thereupon adjourn'd till the 27th.

Being then met again, Mr. Speaker laid before the Commons Duplicates of the Inventories or Particulars, of the Estates of the late Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, and Officers of the *South-Sea* Company, (except such as were already before the House) viz. of Sir *John Fellows*, Sub-Governor, *Charles Foye*, Esq; Deputy-Governor, *James Edmundson*, Esq; *Arthur Ingram*, Esq; Sir *Theodore Fausen*, Kt. and Bart. *Stephen Child*, Esq; *Francis Hawes*, Esq; *Jacob Sawbridge*, Esq; *John Turner* Esq; Sir *William Hammond*, Kt. *William Morley* Esq; *Richard Horsey* Esq; *Hugh Raymond* Esq; Sir *Lambert Blackwell* Bart. *John Gore* Esq; *William Astell* Esq; *Samuel Read* Junior, Esq; *Robert Chester* Esq; *Richard Houlditch* Esq; Sir *Robert Chaplin* Bart. *Thomas Reynolds* Esq; *Peter de la Porte* Esq; *Edward Gibbon* Esq; Sir *Hartcourt Master* Kt. *Ambrose Page* Esq; Sir *Jacob Jacobson* Kt. Sir *John Lambert* Bart. Sir *William Chapman*, Kt. and Bart. Sir *John Blunt* Bart. *John Griggs*, Accomptant, *Robert Surman*, Deputy-Cathier:

Cathier: And these Duplicates of Inventories, were refer'd to a select Committee, which was thereupon appointed to examine the same, to make Estimates of the Balances of the said several Duplicates, and to report to the House such Observations as they should make upon them. After this Mr. Controller acquainted the House, that his Majesty had commanded him to lay before them Copies of several Letters and Papers relating to Mr. *Knight*, which he presented to the House accordingly, with a Schedule of them. The Copies of the said Letters were read, and among them a Letter from the Emperor to the King of *Great Britain*, expressing 'his Imperial Majesty's Inclination and Readiness to comply with his *Britannick* Majesty's Desires, as to the delivering up of Mr. *Knight*, but that the States of *Brabant* having and claiming particular Privileges, which his Imperial Majesty was engag'd to maintain; it would be necessary to make Application to the said States; and his Imperial Majesty, on his Part, would not fail to support such Instances as should be made: To which effect Prince *Eugene* wrote a Letter to the Marquess *de Prié*, which was also read. Several smart Reflections were made, by a noble Member, on the former of those two Letters: But this Affair being equally nice and important, it was resolv'd to take into Consideration the several Letters and Papers relating to Mr. *Knight*, which his Majesty had been pleas'd to communicate to this House, in a Grand Committee, on the 29th.

On the 28th the Commons order'd, that the Committee to whom the Duplicates of the Inventories of the Estates of the late Directors &c. of the *South Sea* Company, were refer'd, should have Power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

March 29. The Commons, in a Grand Committee, took into Consideration the several Letters and Papers, laid before them, relating to Mr. *Knight*. After the reading of some of those Papers, Mr. *Hutchinson* open'd the Debate, representing, 'How much, on the one Hand, the Publick was concern'd, in having the Authors of the present Distress fully discover'd and brought to condign Punishment; and how impracticable it was, on the other Hand, to proceed in this important Inquiry, so long as the principal Agent of the late *South-Sea* Directors, and their Accomplices, was

' was kept out of the Way; that, in the mean Time,
 ' the publick Calamity encreasing every Day, the Na-
 ' tion call'd aloud for Justice: And therefore, if the
 ' Means already us'd for bringing over Mr. *Knight*,
 ' prov'd abortive, it were adviseable to have Recourse
 ' to more speedy and effectual Methods.' Sir *Joseph*
Fekyl, and the Lord *Molesworth*, strongly supported
 Mr. *Hutcheson*, and, in particular, shew'd, that it
 was incumbent on some Persons in the Administration
 to have Mr. *Knight* brought over in order fully to clear
 their own Innocence; otherwise, tho' acquitted, they
 would still be look'd upon as Criminal. Urging, that
 it was matter of Wonder, that so frivolous a Pretence,
 as the Privileges of the States of *Brabant*, should be
 made Use of to put a Stop to so important an Inquiry,
 especially considering how little those Privileges had
 been regarded in more material Points; and what
 Obligations the House of *Austria* lay under to the
British Nation. Sir *R—— d St—— e* offer'd some-
 thing against obliging Mr. *Knight* to be an Evi-
 dence, whether he would or no: But no great Stress
 was laid upon it. On the other Hand, Mr. *Lechmere*
 represented, ' that in all probability the Court of
 ' *Vienna* had not, at first, fully consider'd the Import-
 ' ance of the Instances that were made to them in
 ' his Majesty's Name, and at the Desire of the Com-
 ' mons of *Great Britain*: But that it was to be presum'd
 ' that when so wise a Prince, as the present Emperor
 ' should be appriz'd, that the Welfare and Safety of
 ' *England*, to whom his Imperial Majesty has so great
 ' Obligations, depended, in some Measure, on the
 ' delivering up of Mr. *Knight*, he would readily com-
 ' ply with their Desires: Hereupon Mr. *Lechmere*
 mov'd, that an humble Address be presented to his
 Majesty, returning the Thanks of this House for the
 Instances he has been pleas'd to make, by a Letter
 under his Royal Hand to his Imperial Majesty, for
 obtaining the delivering up of Mr. *Knight*, pursuant
 to the Address of this House; and for communicat-
 ing to this House, the Steps which have been taken
 relating thereto; and to represent to his Majesty, the
 Dissatisfaction which his Commons have at the Ob-
 stacles which they find have been rais'd, under the
 Pretence of the Privileges of the States of *Brabant*,
 against a Compliance with his gracious Endeavours.
 And

And also to represent, that this House is every Day more and more convinc'd of the high Importance it is to the Justice due to his Majesty's People, that effectual Measures be speedily taken for bringing over Mr. Knight.

And earnestly to beseech his Majesty, to imploy his most pressing Endeavours, in such Manner, as in his great Wisdom shall be thought proper, for attaining the just Desire of his Commons.

No Body offer'd to oppose this Motion, which, after Mr. Speaker had resum'd the Chair, Mr. Brodrick reported to the House; and the same being agreed to *Nemine Contradicente*, it was resolv'd, That the said Resolution be laid before his Majesty by the whole House.

Accordingly, *March 30*, the Commons, to the Number of above three hundred, in their Coaches, with their Speaker at their Head, went, about two a-clock in the Afternoon, to *St. James's*, and presented the said Resolution to his Majesty, who return'd the following most gracious Answer.

I Am very well pleas'd, that the Instances which I have made for obtaining the delivering up of Mr. Knight, have given you Satisfaction; I shall continue to imploy my utmost Endeavours for obtaining what you desire, and hope they will prove effectual.

The same Day the Commons agreed to some of the Amendments, made in a Committee, to the Bill for regulating the Journey-men Taylors within the Weekly Bills of Mortality, and order'd the said Bill to be engros'd. They also order'd, that Mr. Milner be added to the Committee appointed to consider of the Duplicates of the Inventories of the Estates of the late South Sea Directors.

March 31. An engros'd Bill for imploying the Manufacturers, and encouraging the Consumption of Raw-Silk, and Mohair-Yarn, by prohibiting the weaving of Buttons or Button Holes made of Cloth, Serge, or other Stuffs; as also an engros'd Bill for the better establishing publick Credit, by preventing, for the future, the infamous Practice of Stock-Jobbing, were read the third Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords, who, during this Month, were mostly taken up in hearing and determining private Causes.

April

April 3. The Commons being met again, Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrants for two new Writs, one for electing a Burgess for the Borough of *King's Lynn* in *Norfolk*, in the Room of the Right Honourable *Robert Walpole, Esq;* who had accepted the Offices of First Commissioner for executing the Office of Treasurer of the *Exchequer*, and that of Chancellor and Under-Treasurer of the *Exchequer*; and the other for electing a Baron for the Town of *Seaford* in *Sussex*, in the Room of the Honourable *Henry Pelham, Esq;* who had accepted the Office of one of the Commissioners of the Treasury. Then Mr. Lowndes presented to the House a Bill for Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South Sea Company*; which was read the first Time, and order'd to be read a second, upon that Day Fortnight. Then it was order'd, that all Orders for Leave to any Members to be absent, be revok'd; and that Mr. Speaker should write his circular Letters, requiring the Attendance of the Members of the House upon Friday the 14th of this Instant *April*. After this, two Aldermen, and one of the Sheriffs of the City of *London*, presented to the House the Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of *London* in Common Council assembled, which was read, order'd to lie on the Table, and is as follows.

To the Honourable the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London in Common Council assembled.

Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioners think it their Duty most humbly to represent to this Honourable House the present State of the City of *London*, so considerable a Part of the Kingdom, now fill'd with numberless Objects of Grief and Compassion, the sad Effects of the Mismanagement, Avarice, and fatal Contrivances of the late Directors of the *South Sea Company*, their Aiders, Abettors, and Confederates, in the Destruction of their Country.

Nor is it the Case of this great City alone your Petitioners lament; but the general Decay of Trade, Manufactures, and of publick Credit, whereof this Honourable House have been always so extreamly tender, as also of the Honour of the *British* Name and Nation.

Your Petitioners beg Leave to return their most humble Thanks to this Honourable House for the great Pains they have taken to relieve the unhappy Sufferers, by compelling the Offenders to make Restitution; as likewise for their continu'd Application to lay open this whole Scene of Guilt, notwithstanding the industrious Artifices of such Sharers in the common Plunder, as have endeavour'd to obstruct the Detection of Fraud and Corruption: And your Petitioners doubt not, but the same Fortitude, Impartiality, and publick Spirit, wherewith this Honourable House have hitherto acted, will still animate them in the Pursuit of these truly great and noble Ends.

We are too sensible of the Load of the publick Debts, not to wish that all proper Methods may be taken to lessen them; and it is an infinite Concern to us, that the Payment of a great Sum towards them (which was expected from the late Scheme) is now render'd extreamly difficult, if not impracticable; and yet is a Cloud hanging over the Heads of the present unfortunate Proprietors of the *South Sea Company*, and a great Damp to publick Credit. We will not presume to mention in what Manner Relief may be given in this arduous Affair, but most humbly submit it to the Consideration of this Honourable House.

Your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray this Honourable House will be pleas'd to take such farther Measures, as they, in their great Wisdom, shall judge proper, that Trade may flourish, publick Credit be restor'd, and Justice done to an injur'd People: And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

Then the House being inform'd, that Brigadier General *Stanwix* (a Member of this House) had, since his Election for the City of *Carlisle*, accepted the Office of Governor of the Town of *Kingslon upon Hull*, and desir'd the Opinion of the House, Whether by such Acceptance, his Election became void? The Commission constituting him Governor of the said Town,

Town, was produc'd, and read at the Table; and a Motion being made, and the Question being put, that it appears to this House, that the Office of Governor of the Town of *Kingslon upon Hull* is an Office in the Army; it pass'd in the Negative, and it was order'd, that Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the electing a Citizen for the said City of *Carlisle*, in the Room of Brigadier *Stanwix*. It was also order'd, 1st. That the Committee of Secrecy have Leave to sit, notwithstanding any Adjournment of this House. 2ndly, That the Committee to whom the Duplicates of the Inventories or Particulars of the Estates of the late Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, Deputy-Cashier, and Accomptant of the *South-Sea Company*, were refer'd, have also Leave to sit, notwithstanding any Adjournment of this House. Then the Serjeant at Arms being call'd upon by the House to give an Account what he had done in Relation to *Charles Parker*, Esq; (who was order'd to be taken into Custody for neglecting his Service in Parliament) he acquainted the House, that he had sent one of his Messengers into the Country for him, and that the Messenger was return'd; and the said Messenger being call'd in, gave the House an Account, that he found Mr. *Parker* very ill, that he kept his Chamber, and had a Physician with him, who said, he was not able to go along with the Messenger without apparent Danger of his Life. And Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, that he had receiv'd a Letter from the said Physician to the same Purpose; Upon which it was order'd, that the said Mr. *Parker* be discharg'd out of Custody, paying his Fees; and then the House adjourn'd till the 14th of *April*.

Being then met again, Sir *John Jennings*, from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty presented to the House, an Estimate of the Debt of his Majesty's Navy, as it stood on the 31st of *December*, 1720. After which, the Petitions of the City of *Worcester*, Borough of *St. Albans* in *Hertfordshire*, City of *New Sarum*, City of *Rochester*, and Borough of *Shaftsbury* in *Dorsetshire* complaining of the unparallel'd Miseries and Misfortunes, which the Nation labours under, by the Corruption and Mismanagements of the late *South-Sea* Directors, their Aiders, and Abettors; returning Thanks to the House for the Pains they had already taken to detect their vile and wicked Practices; and praying,

Praying, that those Destroyers of the Manufactures and Trade of the Nation might be brought to Justice, and receive condign Punishment; were severally presented to the House, read, and order'd to lie on the Table. Then Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue his Warrant for a new Writ for electing a Burgess for the Borough of *Bere-Alston*, in *Devonshire*, in the Room of *Edward Carteret Esq;* who, (jointly with *Galfridus Walpole Esq;*) had accepted the Office of Post-Master General: And upon a Suggestion, that too large and extensive Powers had been granted to *Robert Gordon of Haugh*, by a Commission under the great Seal of *Scotland*, it was resolv'd to address his Majesty for a Copy of the Instructions for passing the said Commission, together with a Copy of it. Then the Call of the House was farther adjourn'd to that Day Sevensnight; and the House adjourn'd to the 17th.

On the 17th of *April*, The Petitions of the County of *Worcester*, of the King's Town of *Maidstone* in *Kent*, Borough of *Leicester*, City and Liberty of *Westminster*; praying, that the House would continue to proceed with the same Spirit and Zeal, to detect and prosecute all manner of Persons, who, by their destructive Counsel, fatal Aid, and unaccountable Avarice, have so greatly impoverish'd the Nation, were presented, read, and order'd to lie on the Table. After this it was unanimously resolv'd, 1. That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, to congratulate his Majesty on the Princess of *Wales's* being happily deliver'd of a Prince, to the unspeakable Joy of all his Majesty's faithful Subjects; and to express the great Satisfaction and Comfort this House has, in seeing the Protestant Interest of this Kingdom more firmly establish'd and secur'd, by the Increase of his Majesty's Royal Family. 2. That the said Address be presented to his Majesty by the whole House. 3. That a Congratulatory Message be sent by this House to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, on this happy Occasion: And it was order'd that the Earl of *Hertford*, Sir *Robert Rich*, the Master of the Rolls, Mr. *Nevill*, and Mr. *Gibbon*, should attend their Royal Highnesses with the said Message. After this Mr. *Yonge* presented to the House, from the Commissioners appointed to examine, state, and determine the Debts due to the Army, and to examine and state the Demands of several foreign Princes and States, for Subsidies during the

the War, a List of the Certificates made out by the said Commissioners; and also a List of Claims and Demands undetermin'd by the said Commissioners. Then Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue his Warrant for a new Writ for electing a Burgeſs for the Borough of *Leſtwithiel* in *Cornwall*, in the Room of *Galfridus Walpole*, Eſq; who had accepted the Office of (joint) Poſt-maſter General. Then Mr. Controller laid before the Houſe Copies of ſeveral Letters and Papers relating to Mr. *Knight*, late Cathire of the *South-Sea* Company: And Sir *Thomas Croſſe* reported from the Committee to whom it was referr'd to examine the ſeveral Duplicates of the Inventories or Particulars of the Eſtates of the late Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, Deputy-Cathier, and Accomptant of the *South-Sea* Company, deliver'd into this Houſe, and to make Eſtimates of the Ballances of the ſaid ſeveral Duplicates: That the Committee had conſider'd the Matter to them referr'd, and had made an Eſtimate of the Ballances of the ſaid ſeveral Duplicates, which they had directed him to report to the Houſe; and he read the ſame in his Place, and afterwards deliver'd the Report in at the Table, where the ſame was read; and order'd to lie on the Table. The Ballances of the ſaid Eſtates are as follow, viz.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>Blunt</i>	183,349	10	8½
<i>Edmonſon</i>	5,365	0	0
<i>Hawes</i>	40,031	0	2½
<i>Hammond</i>	22,707	4	2
<i>Raymond</i>	64,373	6	3
<i>Gore</i>	38,936	15	5
<i>Read</i>	117,297	16	0
<i>Cheſter</i>	140,372	15	6
<i>Houldich</i>	39,527	10	4
<i>Chaplin</i>	45,875	14	5
<i>Reynolds</i>	18,368	12	2½
<i>De la Porte</i>	17,151	4	6
<i>Gibbon</i>	106,543	5	6
<i>Page</i>	34,817	12	3½
<i>Chapman</i>	39,61	6	8½
<i>Lambert</i>	72,508	1	5
<i>Griegſby</i>	31,187	6	0
<i>Tyland</i>	19,175	14	4
<i>Sarman</i>	112,321	10	0
<i>Jacobſon</i>	11,181	4	0

Fellows

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>Fellows</i> _____	243,096	0	6
<i>Blackwell</i> _____	83,529	17	11
<i>Fanffen</i> _____	243,244	3	11
<i>Joye</i> _____	40,105	2	0
<i>Ingram</i> _____	16,795	0	0
<i>Eyles</i> _____	34,329	16	7
<i>Sawbridge</i> _____	77,254	1	3
<i>Morley</i> _____	1,869	19	3
<i>Horsley</i> _____	19,962	5	3
<i>Child</i> _____	52,437	19	1
<i>Astell</i> _____	27,750	19	8½
<i>Turner</i> _____	881	17	6
<i>Master</i> _____	11,814	12	3½
<hr/>			
Total Amount	2,014,123	16	2½

April 18. A Petition of the City of *York*, praying that the House would proceed to satisfy the Justice of the Nation, was presented to the House and read; and after the Dispatch of some private Affairs, the Commons, with their Speaker, attended his Majesty at *St. James's* with their Congratulatory Address; to which his Majesty was pleased to return this most gracious Answer.

I Thank you for this Address, which is a fresh Instance of your Affection to me and my Family. As I shall always have at Heart the securing the Protestant Interest of these Kingdoms, so I can never doubt of your Zeal towards the establishing it upon a lasting Foundation.

April 19. A Petition of the County Palatine of *Cheshire*, praying that Justice be done to an injur'd People, was presented and read; and, after Mr. Speaker had reported the King's Answer above-mention'd, it was order'd, at the Desire of the Committee of Secrecy, that the Lieutenant of his Majesty's Tower of *London*, or his Deputy, should bring Sir *George Caswal*, Kt. now a Prisoner in the said Tower, to attend the said Committee from Time to Time, as often as the said Committee should desire the same. Then a Bill for the Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South-Sea Company*, was read the second Time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

April 20.

April 20. After the reading of the Petition of the Borough of *Shrewsbury*, in the County of *Salop*, for Justice on the Authors and Contrivers of the publick Misfortunes, the Earl of *Hertford* reported, that his Royal Highness, the Prince of *Wales*, having been attended with the Congratulatory Message of this House, his Royal Highness was pleased to return the following Answer, viz.

THE Satisfaction the House of Commons have shewn, on the Occasion of the Birth of my Son, is a certain Proof of the Continuance of that Duty to the King, and of that Affection to his Family, which has so conspicuously appear'd in all their Proceedings; and I look upon this Congratulation as a particular Mark of their Regard to me; and I return my Thanks to the House for it.

Then a Petition of the Officers of the three Regiments of *Wood*, *Douglas*, and *Hamilton*, who serv'd the States General during the late War, was refer'd to a Committee, and it was order'd that the Duplicates of the Inventories or Particulars of Effects of the late Sub Governor, Deputy-Governor, Directors, &c. of the *South-Sea Company*, together with the Abstracts of the said Inventories, be presented separately. After this five Petitions of *Francis Eyles*, Esq; *Richard Horsey*, *William Astell*, *James Edmondson*, Esq; and of *William Tillard*, late Directors of the *South-Sea Company*, setting forth the Case of the several Petitioners, and praying the Compassion and Consideration of the House, according to their respective Circumstances, were severally presented, read, and order'd to lie on the Table: And Mr. *Brodrick* having acquainted the House, That the Committee of Secrecy, since their former Report, had come to a farther Knowledge of some Matters, and were ready to lay a farther Report before the House, at such Time as the House should appoint: It was order'd, that the said Report be receiv'd the next Morning.

Accordingly, on the 21st, after the reading of six Petitions of as many of the late Directors, and of a seventh of *John Grigsby*, late Accomptant General of the *South-Sea Company*, praying the Consideration and Compassion of the House, Mr. *Brodrick*, from the Committee of Secrecy reported some further Matters, as they appear'd to the said Committee, and deliver'd the

Report in at the Table, where the same was read, and order'd to be taken into Consideration that Day Seven-night. The most material Part of this third Report, related to *James Craggs*, Sen. Esq; late Post-master General, and import'd, in Substance, That Forty thousand Pounds *South-Sea* Stock had been taken in, and paid for out of the Cash of the *South-Sea* Company, for the Use and Benefit of the said *Craggs*. It appear'd likewise by this Report, That the Secret Committee had several Times examin'd Mr. *Waller*, but that he contradicted himself in several Particulars; pretending, that he had torn or burnt all his Books of Accounts; so that he had nothing to shew for all his Dealings, either for himself, his Mother, or Mr. *Aislaby*, his Brother-in-Law. These Particulars incens'd many of the Members: And the Bill for restraining *John Aislaby*, Esq; from going out of this Kingdom, &c. and for discovering his Estate and Effects, &c. being thereupon read the second Time, and committed. A Motion was made for consolidating the said Bill, with the Bill for Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South-Sea* Company: Mr. *Robert Walpole*, and some other Gentlemen, represented, That it would seem hard to put a Person of Mr. *Aislaby*'s Eminence and Distinction on the same Level with the Directors, and that such a Precedent might be of dangerous Consequence: But Mr. *Lechmere*, Sir *Joseph Jekyll*, the Lord *Molesworth*, Mr. *Brodrick*, Mr. *Shippen*, and some other Members, speaking for the Motion, the Court-Party did not think fit to divide against it, and so it was carry'd and resolv'd, That Mr. *Aislaby*'s Bill be committed to the Committee of the whole House to whom the Bill for the Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South-Sea* Company, was committed; and order'd, That it be an Instruction to the said Committee, that they do alter and make both the said Bills into one. It was also order'd, upon Serjeant *Pengelly*'s Motion, seconded by General *Rosse*, That it be an Instruction to the said Committee, that they do provide, by a Clause or Clauses, for subjecting the real and personal Estates of the said *John Aislaby*, Esq; in the same Manner, and to the same Purposes, to which the Estates of the late Directors of the *South-Sea* Company are subjected, by the Bill for Relief of the unhappy Sufferers in the *South-Sea* Company. Then the Call of the House was further adjourn'd to the 1st of May.

April 22.

April 22. Six of the late Directors, and Mr. Surman, one of the late Clerks of the Treasury-Office of the South-Sea Company, petition'd the Commons for Compassion: And on the other Hand, four Petitions, viz. of the Counties of Hertford and Dorset, of the City of Bristol, and of the Borough of Oakhampton in Devonshire, pray'd for Justice to an injur'd Nation.

April 24. Eleven other Petitions from the late Sub-Governor, Deputy-Governor, and nine of the late Directors of the South-Sea Company, were also presented to the Commons, and read; as were likewise five Petitions (viz. of the Counties of Essex, and Bucks, City of Exeter, Borough of Agmondesham, or Amerham, and of the Justices of Peace of Middlesex) for Justice.

April 29. Sir Harcourt Master, and Sir John Blunt, two of the late Directors, implor'd the Consideration of the House: But it was observ'd, that Sir John Blunt's Petition, suggesting his Innocence, rather moved their Laughter, than Compassion. After this, six new Petitions for Justice were read, viz. of the Counties of Somerset, Warwick, and Kent, Town of Nottingham, Town of Beverly in Yorkshire, and Borough of Boston in Lincolnshire; and then the Earl of Hertford reported, 'That her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales having been attended with the congratulatory Message of this House; her Royal Highness was pleased to return her Thanks to this House for their congratulatory Message upon the Occasion of the Birth of her Son.' After this, Mr. Shippen stood up, and took Notice, 'That the House had sat a long while, and nothing had yet been done towards the restoring of Publick Credit: That, indeed, a Member of great Parts and Abilities had, at first, proposed a Scheme for that Purpose; but that, instead of proving an effectual Remedy, it appear'd at last to be a meer Palliative, which had rather inflam'd than alleviated the Distemper. That by this Time, a whole injur'd Nation call'd aloud for Vengeance; and if they neglected to hear the Voice of the People, it would look as if they had a Mind to provoke them to do themselves Justice. That 'twas ever his Opinion, that the only effectual Means to restore Credit, was to call them to a strict Account, who had ruin'd it; and, in particular, as much as had apply'd any Part of the Publick Money

‘ Money, entrusted in their Hands, in Stock-jobbing, and had rais’d vast Fortunes by robbing the Publick. ’ And so he mov’d, That it be an Instruction to the Committee of Secrecy, that they enquire what publick Money had been employ’d by any Treasurer, Cathier, Collector, Receiver, or other Officer concern’d in the Receipt or Payment of publick Money, or of any other Part of his Majesty’s Revenue, or by any in Trust for them, or by their Order, in buying Stock or Subscriptions in the *South-Sea*, or any other Company, or in Annuities, or other Parliamentary Securities, or otherwise making Use of or imploying the same, to their private Advantage since the first Day of *December*, 1719.

Sir *William Wyndham* seconded this Motion; adding withal, that there was Reason to apprehend, that the Publick Money had not been administred with due Oeconomy, particularly in Relation to some Foreign Troops, that were in the Pay of *England* and *Holland* during the last War, to whom great Sums had of late been allow’d, on Account of pretended Arrears, after they had separated from the *English* General: And therefore he mov’d, That the late Commissioners appointed to examine, state, and determine the Debts due to the Army, and to examine and state the Demands of several foreign Princes and States for Subsidies during the late War, be order’d to lay before the House, Copies of the several Warrants and Sign-Manuals, by Virtue of which they issued any Certificates.

Hereupon Mr. *Walpole* said, ‘ That he wonder’d to hear of such Motion in this House, when a little after the King’s coming to the Crown, an Act of Parliament had been made for Payment of those Arrears; and that the Commissioners of Accounts had, undoubtedly, acted according to the Intent and Meaning of that Act. ’ To this, Mr. Chancellor of the Dutchy answer’d, ‘ That he was not against the Motion that honourable Gentleman had made, (meaning Sir *William Wyndham*) neither, on the other Hand, was he about to justify it: But he would freely tell the Gentleman who oppos’d it, That while the Nation was under the Pressure of heavy Debts, he must expect that many such Motions would be made, in order to find out Methods to ease the Publick Burden, That as he, (Mr. *Walpole*) was now in

in a higher Post than formerly, so a great deal more was expected from him; the rather because the Scheme which he had propos'd at the Beginning of this Session for the raising of the Stock, and restoring publick Credit, had not had the desir'd Effect. Mr. *Walpole* reply'd, 'That it was known to every Body, that he ever was against the *South Sea* Scheme, and had done all that in his Power lay, to hinder its taking Place: But now the Mischief was done, and Things were brought to such Extremities, he thought it his Duty, and therefore was willing to try the best Method he could think of, to extricate the Nation out of the Difficulties into which they were plung'd: That he did not pretend to work Miracles; but only to use his utmost Endeavours towards the retrieving the late Misfortunes: That with this honest Intention he had promoted a Scheme which had been laid before him, and appear'd the most plausible of any then propos'd, for restoring publick Credit: That it could not be deny'd, that while that Scheme was pursu'd, it had done some good, and kept up the Price of Stocks; and that they fell since it had been laid aside: That, however, he never intended to raise Stocks above the intrinsic Value, for that would bring us again into the same unhappy Circumstances which the raising of them had before occasion'd.' He afterwards lamented the Disposition of some Persons, who, instead of concurring with others in remedying the present Distemper, us'd all possible Means to irritate and exasperate the Minds of the People: Concluding with a Motion, that a Day be appointed to consider of the State of the Publick Credit of the Kingdom. This Motion was unanimously agreed to, and that Day sevennight appointed for that Purpose; after two Orders had been made according to the two Motions (of Mr. *Shippen*, and Sir *William Wyndham*) before-mention'd. Then the Commons, in a Grand Committee, consider'd of the Bills against the late *South-Sea* Directors, and against Mr. *Aislaby*, and having consolidated the same, put off the further Consideration of them till the 27th.

April 26. A Petition of the County of *Hertford* for speedy and exemplary Justice, was read, as were also the next Day, four other Petitions in the same Strain, viz. of the County of *York*, Borough of *Leeds*, City of *Canterbury*, and Town of *Birmingham* in *Warwickshire*.

shire. After this, some farther Progress was made, in a grand Committee, in the consolidated Bills against the late Directors, and Mr. *Aislaby*; and then it was resolv'd to address his Majesty, for Copies of all Memorials, or other Proceedings, since the 9th of *March*, 1719, relating to the Payment of Arrears due to the Regiments of *Wood*, *Douglass*, and *Hamilton*, from the States General.

April 28. After the Reading of the Petitions of the Corporation, Town, and County of *Bedford*, for punishing those who had rais'd their Fortunes by sacrificing the publick Credit, the Commons proceeded to take into Consideration those Parts of the Reports of the Committee of Secrecy of the 21st of *April* Instant, and of the 16th of *February* last, relating to *James Craggs*, Esq; deceas'd, late Post-Master-General, which having been read, Mr. *Broderick* mov'd, that the said Mr. *Craggs* having taken 4000*l.* *South Sea* Stock without paying for it, or giving sufficient Security for the Payment of the same, his Estate might be made liable to the same Forfeitures with those of the late Directors. Hereupon *Grey Nevil*, Esq; desir'd, that the Gentlemen concern'd in this Affair, two of whom were Members of this House, might first be heard by their Counsel, and produce what Witnesses they had, before the House came to any Resolution in this Matter. Mr. *Robert Walpole* seconded him, and, in particular, said, 'He hoped the House would not break their known Rules, which were, not to condemn any one without first hearing them; and sure they would not deny this Piece of Justice to their own Members.' Mr. *Horatio Walpole* spoke to the same Purpose; and then Mr. *Trefasis* (one of the Members interested in this Business) stood up, and said, 'That they were not at all prepar'd, not expecting that this Affair would have come on this Day, because there was another Part in the Report before it, and therefore he desir'd the House would give them Time to get their Witnesses: He added, he had never been us'd to speak in the House, or but very rarely, and his Brother-in-Law, Mr. *Nufam*, not at all, which he hoped the House would take into Consideration, and allow them Counsel to speak for them: That by Mr. *Craggs's* Death, his Estate was devolv'd to them, and Mr. *Elliot*, (lately a Member of the House) in Right of their Wives, the Decedent's three Daughters;

Daughters: That there was no Manner of Crime laid to their Charge; and since Mr. Craggs was dead; and could not answer for himself, he hoped the House would allow them Time and Counsel. This was oppos'd by Sir Joseph Jekyll; but Mr. Robert Walpole said, 'That since the two Gentlemen concern'd had not been us'd to speak in the House, and therefore were not likely to make so good a Defence as otherwise they might, he thought it reasonable to allow them Counsel, and give them Time to prepare.' To this Mr. L——e reply'd, 'That it might, indeed, seem somewhat hard to deny Counsel to Gentlemen who were not us'd to speak in the House; but he doubted not but that good natur'd Gentleman that spoke last, who had so good a Capacity, and was so able to advise them, would sit by them, and by his Assistance be as useful to them, as if they had Counsel, as he had been to severall others in the like Case.' No Return was made to this Reply, upon which the Motion for allowing Counsel was dropt: And then, after some farther Debate about the Time for hearing this Matter, the 1st of May was appointed for that Purpose, in a Committee of the whole House.

April 29. Mr. Speaker was order'd to issue out his Warrant for a new Writ for electing a Citizen for the City of New Sarum in Wiltshire, in the Room of Francis Stanton, Esq; deceas'd: And after the Reading of the Petitions of the Cities of Durham and Chester for Justice, Brigadier Richards, Mr. Tho. Herne, Mr. Matth. Weymouthfold, Mr. Falconbridge, Mr. Robert Surman, Jacob Sawbridge, Esq; Mr. Edward Owen, Mr. Samuel Stroud, Mr. Edward Pulter, Mr. Webster, Mr. Jeffreys, and Mr. John Huggins, were order'd to attend the House on the 1st of May. Thus far the Proceedings of the House of Commons during this Month.

On the 3d of April the House of Lords adjourn'd to the 18th of that Month, when being met again, their Lordships order'd the Lords with white Staves to congratulate with his Majesty, and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on the Birth of the young Prince: And on the 27th of April the Lords resolv'd to address his Majesty, that the proper Officers might be order'd to lay before them the States and Accounts of the Debts of the Navy.

R O M E.

THE Pope having labour'd under an Indisposition for some Days, attended now and then with a Vomiting of Blood, was taken violently ill on the 6th of *March*, O. S. in the Pontifical Palace on *Monte Cavallo*; and dy'd on the 8th of that Month, having reign'd 20 Years, 3 Months, and 26 Days: His Name was *John-Francis Albani*, a Native of *Urbino*, of whose Descent, Person, and Character, the Publick has been lately oblig'd with the following curious Account: His Grandfather was a Linen-draper, and Native of *Albany*, a Man of excellent Parts, subtle, and insinuating, and well skill'd in Botany. As his Trade oblig'd him every Year to come to the Fair of *Sent-gaglia*, a City in the Dutchy of *Urbino*, he was admitted into the Presence of Duke *Francis Maria de la Rovere*, who was a great Admirer of Mechanism, and who finding in that *Albaneze* a Merit above what is generally to be met with in Persons of his Station, took him into his Service, and favour'd him with his Confidence. That Duke had no Male Issue, and his only Sister was marry'd to the Grand Duke of *Tuscany*; his Dominions being a Fief of the Ecclesiastical State, could not descend to Heirs Female: All this must needs have occasion'd great Troubles at the Duke's Death, had he not provided seasonably against them in his Life-time. To obviate them, he resolv'd to yield his Dutchy to Pope *Urban VIII.* who then fill'd the Apostolical Chair, and made Choice of the *Albaneze* to signify his Intention, and make the Tender of his Dominions to the Pope: But as the Will of Man is liable to Vicissitudes, he dispatch'd him thrice for *Rome*, and thrice sent for him back again. The *Albaneze*, who understood the Importance of his Commission, and who justly expected a Reward suitable thereto, and was, besides, so far ingratiated in his Prince's Favour, that he could freely discover his Sentiments, told him, the second Time he sent for him back when on his Road to *Rome*, that in Case he recall'd him the third Time, he would, notwithstanding his Orders, pursue his Journey thither, which accordingly happen'd. Arriving at *Rome*, and being introduc'd to his Holiness, he prostrated himself at the Pope's

Pope's Feet, to present him with the Cession of the Dutchy of *Urbino*, at the same Time, not forgetting to extol his Zeal for the Interest of the holy See, nor omitting to represent the Irresolution of his Master. The Pope, overjoy'd at such a Present, told the Bearer, he might freely demand whatever he pleas'd, and it should be granted. At that very Juncture, there was a Place vacant in the *Roman* Senate, by the Death of the Senator *Malvezzi*. The *Albano* easily obtain'd it for himself; and this gave him a Rank among the *Roman* Nobility, in the Year 1631. This *Albano* had one of his Sons along with him, who, after the Death of Pope *Urban VIII*, of Duke *Francis Maria*, and of his own Father, was taken into Favour by Cardinal *Barberini*. That Cardinal made him his high Chamberlain, which at that Time was an important Post. In 1648 he marry'd a Lady of the Family of *Olivieri*, and by her had two Sons, *John-Francis* and *Horatio*, who from their Grandfather's native Country, took the Surname of *Albani*. *John-Francis*, who was Pope, by the Name of *Clement XI*, was educared under the Protection of the said Cardinal *Barberini*, ~~and~~ in- to holy Orders, and made a considerable Progress in the Study of Divinity, and the *Belles Lettres* particularly in the Canon Law, and became a most excellent Barrister. His Patron gave him a Canonship in the Collegiate Church of *St. Lawrence* and *St. Damiano*, and soon after made him Vicar of *St. Peter*: That Cardinal dying at that Time, *John-Francis* was advanc'd to the Dignity of a Bishop, and was made Governor of *Orvieto*, and afterwards of *St. Sabine*. He did not fill these Posts long; for he, soon weary'd with that Way of Life, which he thought a Kind of Exile, return'd to *Rome* to try his Fortune. About this Time dy'd Cardinal *Status*, a Native of *Liege*, and Secretary of the Briefs; our young Prelate, who had no Equal in Eloquence and Literature, (after the Manner of that Country) was, for want of a better, chosen to succeed him; I say, for want of a better; for the Pontiff had conferr'd that Post on him contrary to his own Inclination, having a Dislike to him, for this Reason only, that he said, he had a Face like that of an Antique Medal; and this was the Motive why he refus'd to make him a Cardinal; though his Possessing Secretary of the Briefs, as well as his own Merit, gave him a just Claim to the Purple; but Pope

Alexander VIII created him Cardinal in 1689. During the Course of his Cardinalship, he was present at all the Congregations of the sacred College, and the Affairs discuss'd therein, were always decided according to his Opinion and Advice, which intensibly gave him so much Credit, that all Differences between Princes, Cardinals, Embassadors, religious Orders, &c. were refer'd to his Mediation; and he always decided them with Applause. His Abilities were now found to be so extraordinary, that all the Powers in Europe courted his Favour; and the King of France having resolv'd to induce King Charles II of Spain to make a Will, thought he could employ none more capable for that nice Affair than Cardinal *Albani*, who, in concert with Cardinal *Portocarrero*, brought it to the desir'd Issue. The King of Spain dying the 1st of November 1720, and at the very Time when the Conclave was assembled at Rome to chuse a Successor to *Innocent XI*, all the Factions that compos'd the same, united, for the Reasons abovesaid, in the Choice of *Albani*, whom they thought the fittest Person to reconcile the several Interests of the Christian Princes, and give Peace to Europe at that difficult Juncture. The Sequel has shew'd how greatly they were mistaken.

That Pontiff was tall, but well proportion'd, of a brown Complexion, his Hair black, and his Constitution strong and healthful. He seem'd to love Men of Merit; but rewarded them only with bare Words. He was liberal to his Relations, and yet bestow'd Favours on them with Caution. He was revengeful to the last Degree against those who oppos'd him; and paid but with Ingratitude those who had serv'd him. He was inflexible in his Resolutions, and rejected all Manner of Advice. His greatest Policy was to keep Princes at Variance.

About an Hour after he was dead, his Nephew, Cardinal *Annibal Albani*, as Chamberlain of the holy See, declar'd *Clement XI*, to be dead, by shewing, as usual, his dead Corpse before the Publick Notaries, and taking a Seal-Ring from his Finger, deliver'd it to *M. Rasponi*, Master of his Household, who deliver'd it to the first Congregation of Cardinals, where it was broke in their Presence: Soon after, the great Bell of the Capitol was toll'd, to give certain Notice

of the Pope's Death; and immediately the publick Goals were open'd, and the Prisoners set at full Liberty. On *Thursday, March 9*, the Body, dissembowel'd and embalm'd, was carry'd in a Sort of an open Bed from the Palace, (after having been expos'd for above half the same Day to publick View) to the Chapel of *Sixtus V.* in the Palace of the Vatican, attended by the *Papal Light-Horse*, the *Swiss Foot-Guards*, the late Pope's Menial Servants, and the Jesuit Penitentiaries of *St. Peter's Church*, all singing solemnly with Wax-Lights in their Hands: Behind follow'd Cannons reversed, Drums and Trumpets in Mourning. In the above-mention'd Chapel the Corpse was reposit'd for that Night, and guarded by the Penitentiaries, who about Noon the next Day deliver'd up their Charge to the Canons of *St. Peter's Church*, in the Presence of the Sacred College, who attended it Twenty six in Number, down into the Church, after a short Service perform'd: The Body was at first plac'd in the Middle of the Church, habited in *Pontificalibus*, and another Service perform'd, and Obeysances made to it by every Cardinal: soon after, it was remov'd into the Chapel of the Holy Sacrament, where the Feet lay to the grated Door, to be kiss'd by all who were ambitious of that Honour. It was particularly observ'd, that almost infinite was the Number of the Female Sex, who paid this Respect to a dead Pope, tho', without particular Licence, they cannot be permitted into his Presence, nor even into the Palace where he resides, when living. This Ceremony continu'd for near three Days, but in the Evening of the Third the Corpse was once more remov'd into the Canons Choir, opposite to the former, where the Funeral Service, properly so call'd, was perform'd in the Presence of all the Cardinals then residing here, who were advanc'd to the Purple by the dead Pope, and therefore call'd his Creatures, being of his Creation. The whole Ceremony was clos'd by the Cardinal Nephew, who with an inexpressible Concern, and most affecting Behaviour, cover'd the Face and Feet of his dead Uncle, and put into his wooden Coffin (cover'd with Lead) three Purses of Medals, of Gold, Silver, and Copper, in each Purse twenty, all of his Coronation, and preserv'd from that Time for this Purpose. After this done, the Corpse in *Pontificalibus* was,