

5. That the said *John Brown* is a Person not fit to serve his Majesty in any Office or Employment, Civil or Military, whatsoever.

6. That the said *John Brown* has in the Course of his Examination, grossly prevaricated with this Committee. •

To all which Resolutions, the Question being severally put, the House did agree *Nemine contradicente*, and thereupon it was order'd, that the said *John Brown* be, for his said Prevarication, taken into the Custody of the Serjeant at Arms attending this House; and that his Majesty's Attorney-General do prosecute the said *John Brown* for contriving and maliciously carrying on the said Conspiracy, to take away the Life of the said *John Bingham*, and others.

The next Day, ( Nov. 6.) the Commons, in a grand Committee, went through Heads of a Bill, for preventing several Abuses committed by Millers, Bakers, and Farmers. Then a Petition of *Richard Lord Viscount Fitz. William*, setting forth, That he is affected by a Clause in Heads of a Bill, now before this House, for explaining and amending the Acts to prevent the Growth of Popery, and for the strengthening the Protestant Interest of this Kingdom; and praying this House would take the same into Consideration, was presented to the House, read, and referr'd to the Committee of the whole House. After this, Mr. *Thomas Meredith* reported from the Committee appointed to consider of proper Methods for the more easy passing of Sheriffs Accounts, the Matter as it appear'd to them, and he read the Report in his Place, and after deliver'd it in at the Table, together with several Papers referr'd to in the Report, where the Report was again read. Hereupon it was resolv'd, *Nem. con.* That the issuing Process against any Sheriff, upon any Fines impos'd by the Court of Exchequer, in Actions there depending, between Party and Party, except at the Instance of the Party, at whose Suit the same were impos'd, is highly grievous and expensive to the Subject. Then the Question being propos'd, that the Rule or Declaration made by the Court of Exchequer in the Year 1716, that no Fine impos'd by the said Court on any Sheriff, should be reduc'd for the future, unless such Sheriff or his Attorney, paid 6*d.* per Pound into the Poor-Box for the first hundred Pounds, and 3*d.* per Pound for every other hundred Pounds of the said Fine, was obtain'd from the said Court by Surprise,

prize, and is a Grievance to the Subject. And the previous Question being put, That that Question be now put,

It was resolv'd in the Affirmative. Then the main Question being put, was also carry'd in the Affirmative. Then a Question being propos'd and put, that the Order conceiv'd by the Court of Exchequer on the 21<sup>st</sup> of *April*, 1722, whereby the Officer was impower'd to issue Attachments against 338 Gentlemen who had serv'd as Sheriffs, for not clearing their several Accounts, would (if put in Execution) have tended greatly to the Prejudice of the Subjects of this Kingdom: It was carry'd in the Affirmative, and order'd, that the said Report with the Resolutions of the House thereupon, be printed; and that Heads of a Bill be brought in for the *more easy passing of Sheriffs Accounts*.

The next Day (*November 7.*) the Commons order'd an Account of the several Fees taken on passing Sheriffs Accounts; and also of the Fees taken on reducing of Fines, to be laid before their House.

On the 8<sup>th</sup>, the Commons in a grand Committee, went through Heads of a Bill, for *accepting the solemn Affirmation and Declaration of the People call'd Quakers, instead of an Oath in the usual Form*; and made some Progress in the Consideration of Heads of a Bill, for *explaining and amending the Acts to prevent the further Growth of Popery*, &c.

The next Day (*November 9.*) Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer reported the Amendments made in the grand Committee, to the Quakers Bill, which, with a further Amendment, were agreed to, and the said Heads of a Bill, order'd to be laid before the Lord Lieutenant, to be transmitted into *Great Britain*; as were also Heads of a Bill, for *preventing several Abuses committed by Millers, Bakers, and Farmers*. That Day, in the Afternoon, the House with their Speaker attended the Lord Lieutenant with the Address of Thanks of this House to his Majesty, which Address is as followeth.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeses in Parliament assembled.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *Ireland* in Parliament assembled, beg Leave in the most humble Manner, to return your  
Majesty

Majesty our unfeigned Thanks for your most gracious Answer to our Address.

And as your Majesty has been pleas'd in your great Goodness, always favourably to accept of such Instances as we have been able to give of our Zeal and Affection to your Majesty, and to assure us, that you will omit nothing that may contribute to the Maintenance of the Religion, Liberties, and Prosperity of your People; we do in the most humble Manner, renew our Assurances of our utmost Zeal for your Majesty's most Sacred Person and Government, which with the greatest Chearfulness and Unanimity, we will always endeavour to defend and maintain against traiterous Conspirators, and all other your Majesty's Enemies at Home or abroad.

And thereupon his Grace was pleas'd to return the Answer following.

**I** Will take Care, that this your dutiful Address be laid before his Majesty without any Loss of Time.

Which Answer being reported to the House on Monday the 11th of November, the same was order'd to be enter'd in the Journals of the House.

On the 12th of November, the Commons agreed to Amendments made to Heads of a Bill for the Relief of insolvent Debtors; as also to Heads of another Bill for explaining and amending an Act for the Preservation of the Inheritance, Rights, and Profits of Lands belonging to the Church, and Persons Ecclesiastical; which Heads of Bills were order'd to be transmitted into Great Britain. Then several Accounts of Fees that had been call'd for, were laid before the House. Then in a grand Committee, they went through Heads of a Bill for explaining and amending the Acts to prevent the Growth of Popery, and for strengthening the Protestant Interest of the Kingdom of Ireland; and made several Amendments thereto.

On the 14th, Dr. Trotter reported from the Committee of the whole House, to whom Heads of a Bill, for explaining and amending the Acts to prevent the Growth of Popery, and for strengthening the Protestant Interest of this Kingdom, were committed, that they had gone through the same Paragraph by Paragraph, and agreed thereto with some Amendments, several of which were again read, and agreed to by the House. Then a Clause being offer'd to be added to the said Heads of a Bill,



The same was read; and the Question being put, that the said Clause do stand Part of the said Heads of a Bill, it pass'd in the Negative. The other Amendments to the said Heads of a Bill, were also read and agreed to by the House with some further Amendments. Several other Clauses being offer'd to be added to the said Heads of a Bill, the same were also severally read, and agreed to by the House, with some further Amendments. After which it was resolv'd, that Mr. Speaker with the House, do attend his Grace the Lord Lieutenant with the said Heads of a Bill, and desire the same may be transmitted into *Great Britain* in due Form.

On the 15th, Mr. *Thomas Upton* reported from the Committee of the whole House, to whom Heads of a Bill for continuing and amending several Statutes made in this Kingdom, heretofore temporary, and near expiring, were committed, that they had gone through the same, and agreed thereto with some Amendments, which he read in his Place, and deliver'd at the Table, where the same were again read, and agreed to by the House with some further Amendments. Several Clauses being offer'd to be added to the said Heads of a Bill, the same were severally read, and agreed to by the House with some Amendments; and then it was order'd, that Mr. *Thomas Upton* do attend his Grace the Lord Lieutenant with the said Heads of a Bill, and desire the same may be transmitted into *Great Britain* in due Form. It was also order'd, that the Committee appointed to inspect the publick Records of this Kingdom, and to see in what Order and Method they are kept, do sit, notwithstanding the Adjournment of the House. Mr. Secretary *Hopkins* reported from the Committee appointed to attend his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, to know his Pleasure when he would be attended by this House, with Heads of a Bill, for explaining and amending the Acts to prevent the Growth of Popery, and for strengthening the Protestant Interest of this Kingdom; that his Grace was pleas'd to appoint this Afternoon, at half an Hour after Two a-Clock at the Castle. Mr. Secretary *Hopkins* also inform'd the House, that he was commanded by his Grace to acquaint the House, that it was his Grace's Pleasure, that this House do adjourn itself to Thursday the 12th Day of December next. And the Question of Adjournment being put, it was resolv'd, that this House do adjourn itself to Thursday the 12th Day of December next.

The Parliament being met again, on Thursday the 12th of December, Mr. Speaker reported, that the  
The



House had attended his Grace the Lord Lieutenant with the Heads of a Bill *for explaining and amending the Acts to prevent the Growth of Popery, &c.* and desir'd his Grace to recommend the same in the most effectual Manner to his Majesty, that it might pass into a Law; and that his Grace was pleas'd to return the Answer following.

‘ I Have so much at Heart a Matter which I recommended to the Consideration of Parliament at the Beginning of this Session, that the House of Commons may depend upon a due Regard, on my Part, to what is desir'd.

Hereupon it was order'd, That his Grace the Lord Lieutenant's Answer be enter'd in the Journal of this House. Then Mr. Secretary *Hopkins* inform'd the House, that he was commanded by the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint the House, that his Majesty had been pleas'd to return a most gracious Answer to the Address of this House, touching the Coinage of Copper Half-pence and Farthings, which he read in his Place, and after deliver'd at the Table, and the same was again read by Mr. Speaker, and is as followeth.

*George R.*

‘ HIS Majesty is very much concern'd to see, that his granting the Patent for coining Half-pence and Farthings, agreeable to the Practice of his Royal Predecessors, has given so much Uneasiness to the House of Commons; and if there have been any Abuses committed by the Patentee, his Majesty will give the necessary Orders for enquiring into, and punishing those Abuses, and will do every thing that is in his Power for the Satisfaction of his People.

It was thereupon order'd, That his Majesty's most gracious Answer be enter'd in the Journal of this House; and resolv'd, that an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, returning him our sincere Thanks for his most gracious Answer to the Address of this House, expressing our entire Dependance on his Majesty's Royal Assurance, *That he will do every thing, in his Power for the Satisfaction of his People;* and our Reliance on his Majesty's Goodness, that he will take the most effectual Measures for preventing the Currency of the Half-pence

and Farthings, coin'd by Vertue of the Patent granted to *William Wood*, which, if allow'd to circulate, will be highly detrimental to his Majesty's Revenue, and utterly impoverish his most dutiful Subjects of this Kingdom; and humbly to beseech his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleas'd to give Directions to the several Officers concern'd in the Receipt of his Majesty's Revenue, that they do not on any Pretence whatever, receive or utter any of the said Copper Half-pence or Farthings, in any Payments to be made to, or by them. And a Committee was appointed to draw up the said Address.

The next Day (*December 13*) a Bill entituled, *An Act for granting and continuing to his Majesty the additional Duties on Beer, Ale, Strong Liquors, Tobacco, and other Goods and Merchandizes, &c.* was presented to the House, read the first, and order'd to be read a second Time.

On the 17th, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer reported the Address of Thanks, which being agreed to without any Amendmets, the House with their Speaker, did (on the 19th) attend the Lord Lieutenant with the same, being as follows:

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,  
The humble Address of the Knights, Citizens, and Bur-  
gesses in Parliament assembled.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *Ireland* in Parliament assembled, humbly beg Leave to return your Majesty our sincere Thanks for your most gracious Answer to the Address of this House, in Relation to the Patent granted for coining Half-pence and Farthings, wherein your Majesty has given us your Royal Assurance, *That you will do every thing in your Power for the Satisfaction of your People.*

This Instance of your Majesty's tender Care and Concern for your Subjects of this Kingdom, engages us, with the deepest Sense of Gratitude, entirely to depend, and with the greatest Chearfulness rely on your Majesty's Goodness, that you will take the most effectual Measures for preventing the Currency of those Half-pence and Farthings.

As this is a Matter of universal Concern to the Trade and Prosperity of this Nation, and that your Majesty's kind Intentions may not be obstructed by the Patentee's attempting

attempting to import and utter the said Half-pence and Farthings, we are encourag'd by the many Favours we have constantly receiv'd during the whole Course of your auspicious Reign, most humbly to beseech your Majesty, that you will be graciously pleas'd to give Directions to the several Officers entrusted in the Receipt of your Majesty's Revenue, that they do not on any Pretence whatever, receive or utter such Half-pence and Farthings, as the most effectual Means to prevent their Currency, and satisfy the Minds of your People.

This we think ourselves indispensably oblig'd in the most humble Manner, to beg of your Majesty, since it is the unanimous Sense of your People, that the Circulation of those Half-pence and Farthings would be highly detrimental to your Majesty's Revenue, and utterly impoverish your most dutiful Subjects of this Kingdom, who are truly sensible of the many Blessings they enjoy under your mild and glorious Reign, and who are ready upon all Occasions, with the greatest Cheerfulness and Unanimity, to maintain, support, and defend your Majesty's Sacred Person and Government, and the Succession as established in your Royal House, at the utmost Hazard of their Lives and Fortunes.

And thereupon his Grace was pleas'd to return the Answer following :

**I** Will with all convenient Speed transmit this Address, in Order, to be laid before his Majesty.

The next Day, (Dec. 20.) the Lords sent down a Message to the Commons, acquainting them, that they had agreed to the Bill, entituled, *An Act for granting and continuing to his Majesty several additional Duties on Beer, Ale, Strong Waters, &c.*

On the 23d of December, there arose a Debate in the House of Commons, about the Conduct of the Lord Viscount Middleton; but it was by a great Majority, resolv'd, That the Right Honourable Alan Lord Viscount Middleton, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, in the several Stations in which he has been employ'd, has behav'd himself with the utmost Zeal and Affection to his Majesty's Person and Government, and to the Protestant Succession in his Royal House; with the greatest Regard to the Properties and Welfare of his Fellow-Subjects, and for his  
faithful



faithful and eminent Services to his Majesty and this Country, is a Person highly meriting his Majesty's Favour. And then it was order'd, that such Members of this House, as are of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy-Council, do attend his Grace the Lord Lieutenant with the said Resolution, and desire the same may be laid before his Majesty as the Resolution of this House. To which his Grace was pleas'd to return the following Answer:

**T**HAT according to the Desire of the Commons, he would lay their Resolution before his Majesty.

The next Day, the Lord Lieutenant went to the House of Peers with the usual State and Solemnity, and the Commons being sent for up, and attending, their Speaker, upon presenting the Money-Bill, made the following Speech:

*May it please your Grace,*

**T**HE Commons, with an Unanimity agreeable to the just Sense they have of the great Felicity they enjoy under his Majesty's Reign, have granted the largest Supply the present Circumstances of the Nation could bear, for the Support of his Majesty's Government, and for the Payment of the Debt formerly contracted by the Publick.

Though they have prepar'd many Bills this Session, which they think of great Importance and Advantage to the Kingdom, and particularly that against Popery, so seasonably recommended by your Grace, yet they would on no Account defer the supplying his Majesty until the Return of those Bills from *Great Britain*. Such is the Effect of that Confidence, they find by Experience they may justly repose in your Grace.

The many convincing Proofs of his Majesty's paternal Care and Tenderness, but particularly his most gracious Answer to the Address of the Commons, relating to the Coining of Copper Half-pence and Farthings, *That he will do every thing in his Power for the Satisfaction of his People*, cannot fail to attract the Hearts of his faithful Subjects of *Ireland*, and excite them to greater Degrees (if possible) of Zeal for his Majesty's Service and Interest.

The kind Part your Grace has taken in this Translation, and in every thing in which the Interest of this Nation

Nation is concern'd, gives the Commons just Ground to hope they shall be soon freed from the Apprehensions they lay under from the late Coinage, and that your Grace will represent them to his Majesty as dutiful and loyal Subjects.

To return Thanks to your Grace for any particular Instances of your Goodness to this Nation, would but imperfectly express the Sense of the Commons, since the whole Series of your Administration has evidently tended to promote the common Interest of his Majesty, and of his faithful Subjects of *Ireland*. It is this that has render'd you dear to us all; and it is for this that the Name of the Duke of *Grafton* will be ever mention'd with Honour by the Protestants of *Ireland*.

*May it please your Grace,*

The Bill prepar'd by the Commons for granting a Supply to his Majesty, is intituled, *An Act for granting and continuing the additional Duties on Beer, &c.* which they humbly present to your Grace for the Royal Assent.

The Lord Lieutenant having given the Royal Assent to that Bill, both Houses adjourn'd to Tuesday the 7th Day of *January* next.

The Commons being met again on that Day, Mr. Secretary *Hopkins* inform'd the House, that he was commanded by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to acquaint the House, that it was his Grace's Pleasure, that they should adjourn themselves to the Friday following, the Bills transmitted into *Great Britain* not being yet return'd: Whereupon, the Question for adjourning being put, was carried in the Affirmative.

The Commons being that Day met again, unanimously resolv'd to present an humble Address to his Majesty, to congratulate his Majesty on his happy Return to *Great Britain*; and having appointed a Committee to draw up the said Address, the Bill for accepting the solemn Affirmation or Declaration of People call'd Quakers, &c. was read the first, and order'd to be read a second Time. After this it was resolv'd to address the Lord Lieutenant for Copies of the several Bills transmitted into *Great Britain*, this Session of Parliament.

The next Day, (*Jan. 11.*) Major General *Wynne* reported the congratulatory Address to his Majesty; which, with an Amendment, was agreed to, and order'd to be pre-

presented to the Lord Lieutenant by the whole House. Then Mr. Secretary *Hopkins* reported to the House, that their Address for laying before this House, Copies of the several Bills transmitted into *Great Britain* this Session of Parliament, had been presented to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, and that his Grace had given Directions accordingly, upon which it was order'd, that the Committee appointed to examine what Alterations have been made in the Heads of Bills sent from this House, this Session of Parliament, and where the same have been so made, be enlarg'd: And the same was enlarg'd accordingly.

By this Time, the House of Lords had presented their congratulatory Address to his Majesty; which together with that of the Commons, were transmitted to *Great Britain* by his Grace the Duke of *Grafton*, are as follow:

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,  
The humble Address of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, do with the sincerest Joy congratulate your Majesty upon your safe and happy Return to these your Dominions.

When we reflect on the many and signal Preservations of your Sacred Person from the Conspiracies of wicked Men at Home, and from the Dangers which attend your Majesty as often as the Repose of *Europe* and the Security of the Protestant Interest call you Abroad; we cannot but ascribe these Blessings to a singular Providence, that watches over a Life so precious to your Subjects, and of such Importance to the common Good of Mankind.

We cannot find Words sufficient to express the grateful Sentiments of our Hearts for the many Blessings we enjoy under your most auspicious Reign, and at this Time particularly for the Continuance of that entire Tranquillity in these your Kingdoms, which, by your Majesty's Wisdom, was, before your Departure, so happily establish'd: All we can do, is to beseech your Majesty to accept our sincerest Acknowledgments, and to offer



offer up our constant Prayers to Almighty God, that your Majesty may long reign over us, and see the Fruits of your great and glorious Designs in the flourishing Estate of your own Dominions, and the lasting Peace of all Europe.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,  
The humble Address of the Knights, Citizens, and Bur-  
geesses in Parliament assembled.

*May it please your Majesty,*

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Commons of *Ireland* in Parliament assembled, most humbly beg Leave to congratulate your Majesty on your safe Return to *Great Britain*.

On this happy Occasion, we cannot but reflect with unspeakable Comfort, on the many Blessings we and all your Majesty's Subjects have enjoy'd during the whole Course of your most auspicious Reign.

Your Majesty's tender Concern and unwearied Endeavours both at Home and abroad, for our Welfare, the Wisdom of your Councils, and your watchful Eye for our Security, have preserv'd us in Peace and Safety; and your making the known Laws of the Land the constant Rule of your Government, both in Church and State, shews you are indeed the Father of your People, and that you look upon their Happiness, as your greatest Glory.

These are Blessings, most Gracious Sovereign, which fill the Hearts of your faithful Commons with the deepest Sense of Gratitude, and with the most ardent Zeal for the Preservation, Honour, and Safety of your Majesty's Sacred Person and Government, and the Succession as by Law establish'd in your Royal House; in Defence of which, we shall be at all Times ready with the greatest Chearfulness to venture our Lives, and all that is dear to us, and are firmly determin'd to behave ourselves on every Occasion, with all Duty and Obedience, becoming the most loyal Subjects to the best of Princes.

The Parliament of *Ireland* having pas'd such Bills as were return'd from *Great Britain*, the Lords presented the following Address to the Lord Lieutenant.

To his Grace, *Charles Duke of Grafton*, Lord Lieutenant  
General and General Governor of *Ireland*,

The humble Address of the Lords Spiritual and Tem-  
poral in Parliament assembled.

*May it please your Grace,*

**W**E the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parlia-  
ment assembled, beg Leave to return your  
Grace our hearty Thanks for the many and repeated In-  
stances you have been pleas'd to give us of your Care  
and Endeavours for the Welfare and Prosperity of this  
Kingdom.

And we do assure your Grace, that as we are sensible  
of the Advantages that this Country has receiv'd from  
your Representations of our Duty and Zeal for his Ma-  
jesty and his Royal House; so we cannot but think our-  
selves safe and happy under the Government of a Lord  
Lieutenant, who has no View but that of his Majesty's  
Service, inseparably united to the Interest of his Sub-  
jects.

We have had such constant Experience of your Grace's  
just and mild Administration, (of which we shall ever re-  
tain a grateful Sense) that we shall always esteem it a  
peculiar Happiness, whilst it shall please his Majesty,  
to continue your Grace our Chief Governor.

The Commons, on the other Hand, complimented the  
Lord Lieutenant in the following Manner:

To his Grace *Charles Duke of Grafton*, Lord Lieutenant-  
General, and General Governor of *Ireland*,

The humble Address of the Knights, Citizens, and Bur-  
gessees in Parliament assembled.

*May it please your Grace,*

**W**E his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects,  
the Commons of *Ireland* in Parliament assem-  
bled, beg Leave to return your Grace our most sincere  
Thanks for your just and prudent Administration, and  
constant Care of the Welfare and Prosperity of this  
Nation, during the whole Course of your Government.

We are perswaded from our Experience of your Grace's  
Gandour and Conduct, that you will always represent the  
State of this Kingdom to his Majesty, in such a Manner,  
as may be most for the Advantage of the Publick, and  
convince his Majesty of the Duty and Affection of his

Protestant

Protestant Subjects of Ireland; and we assure your Grace, with a just Sense of Gratitude, that we can never think ourselves more happy, than under the Influence of your Government.

To which Address his Grace was pleas'd to return the Answer following:

**I** Cannot better express the great Satisfaction I receive from what is contain'd in this kind Address of the House of Commons, than by continuing to use my constant Endeavours to promote the Happiness of this Kingdom, upon which you may entirely depend.

On the 10th of February, the Lord Lieutenant went to the House of Peers with the usual State and Solemnity; and the Commons being sent for up, and attending, his Grace gave the Royal Assent to twenty-one publick and private Bills; and then made the following Speech to both Houses,

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

**T**HERE now remaining no Business before you unfinished, it must be a Satisfaction to us all, that we are come to a Conclusion of a Session, which has been carry'd into an unusual Length, occasion'd partly by some Delay in bringing in such Bills (before it was far advanc'd) as were thought proper for the Consideration of Parliament. As your private Affairs will probably, after so long an Attendance, call you into your respective Countries, I must earnestly recommend to you, in your several Stations, the Care and Preservation of the publick Peace: This desirable End, will, in my Opinion, be greatly promoted by a vigorous Execution of the Laws against Popish Priests, to the Neglect of which, I must tell you, is imputed in a great Measure, the Increase of their Numbers: I shall contribute my Part towards the Prevention of this growing Evil, by giving proper Directions, that henceforward such Persons only be put into the Commission of the Peace, who have distinguish'd themselves by their Fidelity to his Majesty, and by their steady Adherence to the Protestant Interest.

I am by the King's Command to thank you, *Gentlemen of the House of Commons*, for the ample Supplies which you have given this Session, and to assure you of his



Majesty's gracious Acceptance of them ; all due Care shall be taken, that the utmost Frugality be observ'd in the Application of the publick Money. As nothing can render the Aids you have granted more effectual for strengthening the Hands of the Government, and securing the Tranquillity of this Nation, than a perfect Union among Protestants ; I am satisfy'd, from your known Loyalty to the King, and your Love of your Country, that you will procure and cultivate so great a Blessing ; and the same Principles must induce you to discountenance the restless Endeavours of any who may attempt to sow Jealousies or raise groundless Apprehensions in the Minds of his Majesty's Subjects.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

It is with great Pleasure that I perswade myself from your respective Addresses to me, that the Administration in my Hands, has been to your Satisfaction : I must in Return, assure you, that I shall make a faithful Representation to the King, of the Affections and Behaviour of his dutiful Subjects of *Ireland* : I will not fail to lay before his Majesty the true State of this Country, and shall upon all Occasions recommend it to his Royal Grace and Favour.

Then the Parliament was prorog'd to the Seventh of *March* following.

Having in the foregoing Account of the Proceedings of the *Irish* Parliament, taken Notice of their Resolutions and Addresses relating to the Patent granted to *William Wood, Esq;* for the coining and uttering Copper Half-pence and Farthings in that Kingdom, it will be proper to subjoin here the following Report of the Committee of the Lords of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy-Council, to whom that Affair was referr'd.

*Report*

*Report of the Lords of the Committee of the Privy-Council, relating to the Patent granted to William Wood, Esq; for the coining and uttering Copper Half-pence and Farthings in the Kingdom of Ireland.*

At the Council-Chamber at *Whitehall*, the 24th Day of *July*, 1724.

By a Committee of the Lords of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy-Council.

I N Obedience to your Majesty's Order of Reference, upon the several Resolutions and Addresses of both Houses of Parliament of *Ireland*, during their late Session, the late Address of your Majesty's Justices, and Privy-Council of that Kingdom, and the Petitions of the County and City of *Dublin*, concerning a Patent granted by your Majesty to *William Wood*, Esq; for the coining and uttering Copper Half-pence and Farthings in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, to such Persons as would voluntarily accept the same; and upon the Petition of the said *William Wood*, concerning the same Coinage, the Lords of the Committee have taken into their Consideration the said Patent, Addresses, Petitions, and all Matters and Papers relating thereto, and have heard and examin'd all such Persons as upon due and sufficient Notice, were desirous and willing to be heard upon the Subject Matter under their Consideration, and have agreed upon the following Report, containing a true State of the whole Matter, as it appear'd before them, with their humble Opinion, to be laid before your Majesty for your Royal Consideration and Determination, upon a Matter of such Importance.

The several Addresses to your Majesty, from your Subjects of *Ireland* contain in general Terms, the strongest Representations of the great Apprehensions they were under, from the importing and uttering Copper Half-pence and Farthings in *Ireland*; by Virtue of the Patent granted to Mr. *Wood*, which they conceiv'd would prove highly prejudicial to your Majesty's Revenue, destructive of the Trade and Commerce of the Kingdom, and of dangerous Consequence to the Properties of the Subject. They represent, that the Patent had been obtain'd in a clandestine and unprecedented Manner, and by notorious Misrepresentations of the State of *Ireland*; that if the

Terms

Terms of the Patent had been comply'd with, this Coinage would have been of infinite Loss to the Kingdom; but that the Patentee, under Colour of the Powers granted to him, had imported and endeavour'd to utter great Quantities of different Impressions, and of less Weight, than requir'd by the Patent, and had been guilty of notorious Frauds and Deceit in coining the said Copper Money: And they humbly beseech your Majesty, that you would give such Directions, as in your great Wisdom you should think proper, to prevent the fatal Effects of uttering any Half-pence or Farthings by Virtue of the said Patent: And the House of Commons of *Ireland*, in a second Address upon this Subject, pray, that your Majesty would be pleas'd to give Directions to the several Officers intrusted in the Receipt of your Majesty's Revenue, that they do not, on any Pretence whatever, receive or utter any of the said Copper Half-pence or Farthings.

In Answer to the Addresses of the Houses of Parliament of *Ireland*, your Majesty was most graciously pleas'd to assure them, ' That if any Abuses had been committed ' by the Patentee, You would give the necessary Orders ' for enquiring into, and punishing those Abuses; and ' that your Majesty would do every thing that was in ' your Power, for the Satisfaction of your People.

In Pursuance of this your Majesty's most gracious Declaration, Your Majesty was pleas'd to take this Matter into your Royal Consideration, and that you might be the better enabled effectually to answer the Expectations of your People of *Ireland*, your Majesty was pleas'd, by a Letter from Lord *Carteret* one of your Principal Secretaries of State, dated *March 10, 1723-4*, to signify your Pleasure to your Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, ' That ' he would give Directions for sending over such Papers ' and Witnesses as should be thought proper to support the ' Objections made against the Patent, and against the Patentee, in the Execution of the Powers given him by ' the Patent.

Upon the Receipt of these your Majesty's Orders, the Lord Lieutenant, by his Letter of the 20th of *March, 1723-4*, represented the great Difficulty he found himself under to comply with these your Majesty's Orders; and by another Letter of the 24th of *March, 1723-4*, after consulting the principal Members of both Houses, who were immediately in your Majesty's Service, and of the Privy-Council, acquainted your Majesty, ' That ' none



‘ none of them would take upon them to advise, how  
 ‘ many material Persons or Papers might be sent over  
 ‘ on this Occasion ; but they all seem’d apprehensive of  
 ‘ the ill Temper any Miscarriage, in a Tryal upon a *Sci-*  
 ‘ *re Facias*, brought against the Patentee, might occasion  
 ‘ in both Houses, if the Evidence were not laid as full  
 ‘ before a Jury, as it was before them.’ And did there-  
 fore, a second Time, decline sending over any Persons,  
 Papers, or Materials whatsoever, to support this Charge  
 brought against your Majesty’s Patent and the Paten-  
 tee.

As this Proceeding seem’d very extraordinary, that  
 in a Matter that had rais’d so great and universal a Cla-  
 mour in *Ireland*, no one Person could be prevail’d upon  
 to come over from *Ireland*, in Support of the united  
 Sense of both Houses of Parliament of *Ireland* ; that no  
 Papers, no Materials, no Evidence whatsoever of the  
 Mischiefs arising from this Patent, or of the notorious  
 ‘ Frauds and Deceit committed in the Execution of it,  
 could now be had, to give your Majesty Satisfaction  
 herein ; your Majesty however, ‘ desirous to give your  
 ‘ People of *Ireland* all possible Satisfaction, but sensible  
 ‘ that you cannot in any Case, proceed against any of  
 ‘ the meanest of your Subjects, but according to the  
 ‘ known Rules and Maxims of Law and Justice,’ repeat-  
 ed your Orders to your Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, that  
 by Perswasion, and making proper Allowances for their  
 Expences, new Endeavours might be us’d to procure and  
 send over such Witnesses as should be thought material to  
 make good the Charge against the Patent.

In Answer to these Orders, the Lord Lieutenant of  
*Ireland* acquaints your Majesty, by his Letter of the  
 23d of *April*, 1724, to one of your Principal Secreta-  
 ries of State, ‘ That in order to obey your Majesty’s Com-  
 ‘ mands as far as possibly he could, at a Meeting with my  
 ‘ Lord Chancellor, the Chief Judges, your Majesty’s At-  
 ‘ torney and Solicitor-General, he had earnestly desir’d  
 ‘ their Advice and Assistance, to enable him to send o-  
 ‘ ver such Witnesses as might be necessary to support  
 ‘ the Charge against Mr. *Wood*’s Patent, and the Execu-  
 ‘ tion of it: The Result of this Meeting was such, that  
 ‘ the Lord Lieutenant could not reap the least Advantage  
 ‘ or Assistance from it, every one being so guarded with  
 ‘ Caution, against giving any Advice or Opinion in this  
 ‘ Matter of State, apprehending great Danger to them-  
 ‘ selves from meddling in it.

The Lords of the Committee think it very strange, that there should be such great Difficulty in prevailing with Persons, who had already given their Evidence before the Parliament of *Ireland*, to come over and give the same Evidence here, and especially, that the chief Difficulty should arise from a general Apprehension of a *Miscarriage*, in an Enquiry before your Majesty, or in a Proceeding by due Course of Law, in a Case, where both Houses of Parliament had declar'd themselves so fully convinc'd, and satisfy'd upon Evidence, and Examinations taken in the most solemn Manner.

At the same Time that your Majesty sent your Orders to the Lord Lientenant of *Ireland*, to send over such Evidences as were thought material to support the Charge against the Patent, that your Majesty might, without any further Loss of Time than was absolutely necessary, be as fully inform'd as was possible, and that the Abuses and Frauds alledg'd to be committed by the Patentee, in executing the Powers granted to him, might be fully and strictly enquir'd into, and examin'd, your Majesty was pleas'd to order, that an Assay should be made of the Fineness, Value, and Weight of this Copper-Money, and the Goodness thereof, compar'd with the former Coinages of Copper-Money for *Ireland*, and the Copper-Money coin'd in your Majesty's Mint in *England*; and it was accordingly referr'd to Sir *Isaac Newton*, *Edward Southwell*, and *John Scrope*, Esqrs. to make the said Assay and Tryal.

By the Reports made of this Assay, which are hereto annex'd, it appears, ' That the *Pix* of the Copper-Monies coin'd at *Bristol* by Mr. *Wood* for *Ireland*, containing the Tryal Pieces, which was seal'd and lock'd up at the Time of coining, was open'd at your Majesty's Mint at the Tower; that the Controller's Account of the Quantities of Half-pence and Farthings coined, agreed with Mr. *Wood*'s Account, amounting to 59 Tons, 3 Hundred, 1 Quarter, 11 Pounds, and 4 Ounces; that by the Specimens of this Coinage, which had from Time to Time been taken from the several Parcels coin'd, and seal'd up in Papers, and put into the *Pix*, 60 Half-pence weigh'd 14 Ounces Troy, and 18 Penny Weight, which is about a Quarter of an Ounce above one Pound Weight *Averdupois*; and 30 Farthings weigh'd 3 Ounces and 3 Quarters of an Ounce Troy, and 46 Grains, which is also above the Weight requir'd by the Patent. It also appears, that both Half-pence and

and Farthings, when heated red hot, spread thin under the Hammer, without cracking; that the Copper of which Mr. Wood's Coinage is made, is of the same Goodness and Value with the Copper of which the Copper Money is coin'd in your Majesty's Mint for *England*, and worth in the Market about 13 Pence per Pound Weight Averdupois; that a Pound of Copper wrought into Bars or Fillets, and made fit for Coinage, before brought into the Mint at the Tower of *London*, is worth 18 Pence per Pound, and always costs as much, and is coin'd into 73 Pence of Copper Money by Tale, for *England*: It likewise appears, that the Half-pence and Farthings coin'd by Mr. Wood, when compar'd with the Copper Money coin'd for *Ireland*, in the Reigns of King *Charles II.* King *James II.* and King *William* and Queen *Mary*, considerably exceeds them all in Weight, very far exceeds them all in Goodness, Fineness, and Value of the Copper, none of them bearing the Fire so well, not being malleable, wasting very much in the Fire, and great Part of them burning into a Clinder of little or no Value at all; Specimens of all which, as likewise of Mr. Wood's Copper Money, upon Tryals and Assays made by Sir *Isaac Newton*, Mr. *Southwell*, and Mr. *Scrupe*, were laid before this Committee for their Information.

The Lords of the Committee beg Leave upon this Article of the Complaint, that notorious Frauds and Deceits had been committed by the Patentee, in executing the Powers granted to him, to observe to your Majesty, that this is a Fact expressly charg'd upon the Patentee; and if it had in any Manner been prov'd, it might have enabled your Majesty, by due Course of Law, to have given the Satisfaction to the People of *Ireland*, that has been so much insisted upon; but as it is now *above four Months* since your Majesty was pleas'd to send over to *Ireland* for such Evidence, as might prove a Fact alledg'd to be so notorious, and no Evidence at all has been as yet transmitted, nor the least Expectation given of any that may hereafter be obtain'd, and the Tryals and Assays that have been taken of the Half-pence and Farthings coin'd by Mr. Wood, proving so unquestionably the Weight, Goodness, and Fineness of the Copper Money coin'd, rather exceeding the Conditions of the Patent, than being any way defective, the Lords of the Committee cannot advise your Majesty, by a Writ of *Scire Facias*, or any other Manner, to endeavour vacating



ting the said Patent, when there is no Probability of Success in such an Undertaking.

As these Tryals and Assays fully shew, that the Patentee hath acted fairly according to the Terms and Conditions of his Patent, so they evidently prove, that the Care and Caution made Use of in this Patent, by proper Conditions, Checks and Controles, have effectually provided, that the Copper Money coin'd for *Ireland* by Virtue of this Patent, should far exceed the like Coinages for *Ireland*, in the Reigns of your Majesty's Royal Predecessors.

And that your Majesty's Royal Predecessors have exercis'd this undoubted Prerogative of granting to private Persons the Power and Privilege of coining Copper Half-pence and Farthings for the Kingdom of *Ireland*, was proy'd to this Committee by several Precedents of such Patents granted to private Persons, by King *Charles II.* and King *James II.* none of which were equally beneficial to your Kingdom of *Ireland*, nor so well guarded with proper Covenants and Conditions for the due Execution of the Powers thereby granted, altho' the Power and Validity of those Patents, and a due Compliance with them, was never in any one Instance, 'till this Time, disputed or controverted.

By these former Patents, the sole Power of coining Copper Money for *Ireland*, was granted to the Patentees for the Term of 21 Years, to be coin'd in such Place as they should think convenient, and *such Quantities as they could conveniently issue within the Term of 21 Years*, without any Restriction of the Quantity to be coin'd within the whole Term, or any Provision of a certain Quantity only, to be coin'd annually, to prevent the ill Consequences of too great a Quantity to be pour'd in at once, at the Will and Pleasure of the Patentees; no Provision was made for the Goodness and Fineness of the Copper, no Controller appointed to inspect the Copper in Bars and Fillets before coin'd, and take constant Assays of the Money when coin'd, and the Power of issuing not limited to *such as would voluntarily accept the same*; but by the Patent granted to *John Knox*, the Money coin'd by Virtue of that Patent, is made and declar'd to be the current Coin of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and a Pound Weight of Copper was allow'd to be coin'd into 2 Shillings and 8 Pence, and whatever Quantity should be coin'd, a Rent of 16*l.* per Annum only was reserv'd to the Crown, and

700 Tons of Copper were computed to be coin'd with-  
in the 21 Years, without any Complaint.

The Term granted to Mr. *Wood* for coining Copper Money is for 14 Years only, the Quantity for the whole Term limited to 360 Tons, 100 Ton only to be issu'd within one Year, and 20 Tuns each Year for the 13 remaining Years; a Controller is appointed by Authority of the Crown, to inspect, controll, and assay the Copper, as well not coin'd as coin'd; the Copper to be fine *British* Copper, cast into Bars or Fillets, which when heated red hot, would spread thin under the Hammer; a Pound Weight of Copper to be coin'd into 2 *Shillings and Sixpence*, and without any Compulsion or Currency enforc'd, to be receiv'd by such only, as would voluntarily and willingly accept the same; a Rent of 100 *l. per Annum* is reserv'd unto your Majesty, and 200 *l. per Annum* to your Majesty's Clerk Controller, to be paid annually by the Patentee, for the full Term of the 14 Years, which for 13 Years when 20 Tons of Copper only are coin'd, is not inconsiderable; these great and essential Differences in the several Patents that have been granted for coining Copper Money for the Kingdom of *Ireland*, seem'd sufficiently to justify the Care and Caution that was us'd in granting the Letters Patent to Mr. *Wood*.

It has been further represented to your Majesty, that these Letters Patent were obtain'd by Mr. *Wood* in a clandestine and unprecedented Manner, and by gross Misrepresentations of the State of the Kingdom of *Ireland*. Upon enquiring into this Fact, it appears, that the Petition of Mr. *Wood* for obtaining this Coinage, was presented to your Majesty at the Time that several other Petitions and Applications were made to your Majesty, for the same Purpose, by sundry Persons, well acquainted and conversant with the Affairs of *Ireland*, setting forth the great Want of small Money, and Change in all the common and lower Parts of Traffick and Business throughout the Kingdom; and the Terms of Mr. *Wood*'s Petition seeming to your Majesty most reasonable, thereupon a Draught of a Warrant directing a Grant of such Coinage to be made to Mr. *Wood*, was referr'd to your Majesty's then Attorney and Solicitor-General of *England*, to consider and report their Opinion to your Majesty; Sir *Isaac Newton*, as the Committee is inform'd, was consulted in all the Steps of settling and adjusting the Terms and Conditions of the Patent; and after mature Deliberation, your Majesty's

Warrant was sign'd, directing an Indenture in such Manner as is practis'd in your Majesty's Mint in the Tower of *London*, for the coining of Gold and Silver Monies, to pass the Seal of *Great Britain*, which was carry'd through all the usual Forms and Offices without Haste or Precipitation. That the Committee cannot discover the least Pretence to say, this Patent was pass'd or obtain'd in a clandestine or unprecedented Manner, unless it is to be understood, that your Majesty's granting a Liberty of coining Copper Money for *Ireland*, under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, without referring the Consideration thereof to the principal Officers of *Ireland*, is the Grievance and Mischief complain'd of. Upon this Head, it must be admitted, that Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *Great Britain* for coining Copper Money for *Ireland*, are legal and obligatory, a just and reasonable Exercise of your Majesty's Royal Prerogative, and in no Manner derogatory or invasive of any Liberties or Privileges of your Subjects of *Ireland*. When any Matter or Thing is transacting that concerns or may effect your Kingdom of *Ireland*, if your Majesty has any Doubts concerning the same, or sees just Cause for consulting your Officers of *Ireland*, your Majesty is frequently pleas'd to refer such Considerations to your chief Governors of *Ireland*; but the Lords of the Committee hope it will not be asserted, that any legal Orders or Resolutions of your Majesty can or ought to be call'd in Question or invalidated, because the Advice or Consent of your chief Governors of that Kingdom was not previously had upon them: The Precedents are many, where, in Cases of great Importance to *Ireland*, and that immediately affected the Interests of that Kingdom, Warrants, Orders, and Directions, by the Authority of your Majesty, and your Royal Predecessors, have been issu'd under the Royal Sign Manual, without any previous Reference or Advice of your Officers of *Ireland*, which have always had their due Force, and have been punctually comply'd with and obey'd. And as it cannot be disputed, but this Patent might legally and properly pass under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, so their Lordships cannot find any Precedents of References to the Officers of *Ireland*, of what pass'd under the Great Seal of *England*; on the contrary, there are Precedents of Patents pass'd under the Great Seal of *Ireland*, where, in all the previous Steps, the References were made to the Officers of *England*.



By the Misrepresentation of the State of *Ireland*, in order to obtain this Patent, it is presum'd, is meant, that the Information given to your Majesty of the great Want of small Money, to make small Payments, was groundless, and that there is no such Want of small Money. The Lords of the Committee enquir'd very particularly into this Article, and Mr. Wood produc'd several Witnesses, that directly asserted the great Want of small Money for Change, and the great Damage that Retailers, and Manufacturers suffer'd for Want of such Copper Money. Evidence was given, that considerable Manufacturers have been oblig'd to give Tallies, or Tokens in Cards, to their Workmen, for want of small Money, sign'd upon the Back, to be afterwards exchange'd for larger Money: That a Premium was often given to obtain small Money for necessary Occasions: Several Letters from *Ireland* to Correspondents in *England*, were read, complaining of the Want of Copper Money, and expressing the great Demand there was for this Money.

The great Want of small Money was further prov'd by the common Use of *Raps*; a counterfeit Coin, of such base Metal, that what passes for a Half-penny is not worth half a Farthing, which *Raps* appear'd to have obtain'd a Currency, out of Necessity, and for want of better small Money to make Change with; and by the best Accounts, the Lords of the Committee have Reason to believe, that there can be no Doubt, that there is a real Want of small Money in *Ireland*, which seems to be so far admitted on all Hands, that there does not appear to have been any Misrepresentation of the State of *Ireland* in this Respect.

In the second Address from the House of Commons to your Majesty, they most humbly beseech your Majesty, that you will be graciously pleas'd to give Directions to the several Officers intrusted with the Receipt of your Majesty's Revenue, that they do not, on any Pretence whatsoever, receive or utter such Half-pence or Farthings; and Mr. Wood, in his Petition to your Majesty, complains, that the Officers of your Majesty's Revenue had already given such Orders to all the inferior Officers not to receive any of this Coin.

Your Majesty, by your Patent, under the Great Seal of Great Britain, ' Wills, requires, and commands your ' Lieutenant, Deputy, or other Chief Governor or Governor of your Kingdom of *Ireland*, and all other Officers ' and Ministers of your Majesty, your Heirs and Successors, ' in

‘in *England, Ireland, or elsewhere, to be aiding and assisting*  
 ‘to the said *William Wood, his Executors, &c.* in the  
 ‘Execution of all or any the Powers, Authorities, Di-  
 ‘rections, Matters, or Things to be executed by him  
 ‘or them, or for his or their Benefit and Advantage, by  
 ‘Virtue, and in Pursuance of the said Indentures, in all  
 ‘Things as becometh, &c.’ And if the Officers of the  
 Revenue have, upon their own Authority, given any  
 Orders, Directions, Significations, or Intimations, to  
 hinder or obstruct the receiving and uttering the Copper  
 Money coin’d and imported, pursuant to your Maje-  
 sty’s Letters Patent, this cannot but be look’d upon as  
 a very extraordinary Proceeding.

In another Paragraph of the Patent, your Majesty has  
 covenanted and granted unto the said *William Wood, his*  
*Executors, &c.* ‘That upon Performance of Covenants,  
 ‘on his and their Parts, he and they shall peaceably and  
 ‘quietly, have, hold, and enjoy, all the Powers, Au-  
 ‘thorities, Privileges, Licences, Profits, Advantages, and  
 ‘all other Matters and Things thereby granted, without  
 ‘any Let, Suit, Trouble, Molestation, or Denial of your Ma-  
 ‘jesty, your Heirs or Successors, or of or by any of your or  
 ‘their Officers or Ministers, or any Person or Persons, &c.’  
 This being so expressly granted and covenanted by your  
 Majesty, and there appearing no Failure, Non-Perfor-  
 mance, or Breach of Covenants, on the Part of the Pa-  
 tentee; the Lords of the Committee cannot advise your  
 Majesty to give Directions to the Officers of the Revenue,  
 not to receive or utter any of the said Copper Half-pence  
 or Farthings, as has been desir’d.

Mr. *Wood* having been heard by his Counsel, produc’d  
 his several Witnesses, all the Papers and Precedents,  
 which he thought material, having been read, and con-  
 sider’d; and having as he conceiv’d, fully vindicated  
 both the Patent, and the Execution thereof, for his fur-  
 ther Justification, and to clear himself from the Impu-  
 tation of attempting to make to himself any unreasonable  
 Profit or Advantage, and to enrich himself at the Ex-  
 pence of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, by endeavouring to  
 impose upon them, and utter a greater Quantity of Cop-  
 per Money, than the necessary Occasions of the People  
 shall require, and can easily take off, deliver’d a Pro-  
 posal in Writing, sign’d by himself, which is hereunto  
 annex’d, and Mr. *Wood* having by the said Letters Pa-  
 tent, ‘covenanted, granted, and promised, to and with your  
 Majesty, your Heirs and Successors, that he shall and will  
 from

from Time to Time in the making the said Copper Farthings and Half-pence in England, and in transporting the same from Time to Time to Ireland, and in uttering, vending, disposing, and dispersing the same there, and in all his Doings and Accounts concerning the same, submit himself to the Inspection, Examination, Order, and Controle of your Majesty, and your Commissioners of the Treasury, or High Treasurer for the Time being; the Lords of the Committee are of Opinion, that your Majesty, upon this voluntary Offer, and Proposal of Mr. Wood, may give proper Orders and Directions for the Execution and due Performance of such Parts of the said Proposal, as shall be judg'd most for the Interest and Accommodation of your Subjects of Ireland: In the mean time it not appearing to their Lordships, that Mr. Wood has done or committed any Act or Deed, that may tend to invalidate, or make void his Letters Patent, or to forfeit the Privileges and Advantages thereby granted to him by your Majesty: It is but just and reasonable, that your Majesty should immediately send Orders to your Commissioners of the Revenue, and all other your Officers in Ireland, to revoke, all Orders, Directions, Significations, or Intimations whatsoever, that may have been given by them, or any of them, to hinder or obstruct the receiving and uttering this Copper Money; and that the Half-pence and Farthings already coin'd by Mr. Wood, amounting to about 17000 l. and such farther Quantity as shall make up the said 17000 l. to 40000 l. be suffer'd and permitted without any Let, Suit, Trouble, Molestation, or Denial of any of your Majesty's Officers or Ministers whatsoever, to pass, and be receiv'd as current Money, by such as shall be willing to receive the same. At the same Time, it may be adviseable for your Majesty, to give the proper Orders, that Mr. Wood shall not coin, import into Ireland, utter or dispose of any more Copper Half-pence and Farthings, than to the Amount of 40000 l. according to his own Proposal, without your Majesty's Licence or Authority, to be had for that Purpose; and if your Majesty shall be pleas'd to order, that Mr. Wood's Proposal deliver'd to the Lords of the Committee, shall be transmitted to your Majesty's Chief Governor, Deputies, or other your Ministers, or Officers in Ireland, it will give them a proper Opportunity to consider, Whether, after the Reduction of 360 Tons of Copper, being in Value 100,800 l. to 142 Tons, 17 Hundred, 16 Pound, being in Value 40,000 l. only, any thing can be done for the further Satisfaction of the People of Ireland.

This



This Report having been laid before the King in Council, his Majesty was pleas'd thereupon to make the following Order:

*Whitehall, August 18.*

A Report from the Lords of the Committee of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, dated the 24th of last Month, relating to the Patent granted to *William Wood*, Esq; for coining Half pence and Farthings for his Majesty's Kingdom of *Ireland*, having been laid before his Majesty in Council at *Kensington* the 6th Instant; his Majesty was pleas'd with the Advice of his Privy Council, to approve thereof, and to order the Lords Commissioners of his Treasury, to give proper Directions, that the said *William Wood* should not coin, import into *Ireland*, utter, or dispose of any more Copper Half-pence or Farthings, than to the Amount of 40,000 *l.* according to his own Proposal, without his Majesty's special Licence or Authority to be had for that Purpose. His Majesty was also pleas'd to order, that one of his Principal Secretaries of State should signify his Pleasure to the Lord Lieutenant, or Lords Justices of his said Kingdom of *Ireland*, immediately to order his Majesty's Commissioners of the Revenue, and all other his Officers in *Ireland*, that in Case they, or any of them, have given any Orders, Directions, Significations, or Intimations whatsoever, to hinder or obstruct the receiving and uttering this Copper Money, they do revoke the same; and that the Half-pence and Farthings already coin'd by Mr. *Wood*, amounting to about 17000 *l.* and such further Quantity as shall make up the said 17000 *l.* to 40,000 *l.* be suffer'd and permitted, pursuant to the Terms of the Patent, without any Lett, Suit, Trouble, Molestation, or Denial of any of his Majesty's Officers and Ministers whatsoever, to pass, and be receiv'd as current Money, by such as are willing to receive the same. And his Majesty was further pleas'd to order, that one of his Principal Secretaries of State should transmit a Copy of Mr. *Wood*'s Proposal aforementioned, to his Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, or Lords Justices of *Ireland*, that they might have an Opportunity to consider, Whether after the Reduction of 360 Tons of Copper, being in Value 100,800 *l.* to 142 Tons, 17 Hundred, 16 Pound Weight, being in Value 40,000 *l.* only, any thing can be done for the further Satisfaction of the People of *Ireland*.

Whereupon one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State hath signify'd his Majesty's Pleasure to the Lord Lieutenant

Lieutenant of *Ireland*, and also transmitted to him a Copy of Mr. *Wood's* said Proposal; and the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury have given the proper Directions pursuant to the said Order.



## S P A I N.

THE last *Register* concluded with an Account of a surprizing Revolution in *Spain*, occasioned by the Abdication of *Philip V.* in Favour of his eldest Son the Prince of *Asturias*, who ascended the Throne of *Spain* on the 16th of *January* last, by the Name of *Lewis I.* but dy'd of the Small Pox at his Palace of *Buen-Retiro*, on the 30th of *August*, N. S. being just enter'd into the 18th Year of his Age.

Upon this King's Death, the Council of *Castille* met several Times and agreed to represent to King *Philip*, That by the strictest Ties of Justice and Conscience, he stood obliged to resume the Crown and Government of the Kingdoms of *Spain*, as natural King and Proprietor of the *Spanish* Monarchy, to prevent the Government from falling under a Regency, as it must otherwise of Necessity do, the Infante *Don Ferdinand*, who ought to succeed as next Heir to his Brother the deceased King, being scarce eleven Years of Age.

Upon these Representations of the Council of *Castille*, which they laid before his Majesty by way of Petition, that Prince order'd six Divines to be consulted, who gave him their Advice, that he ought to take the Regency upon him during the Minority of the Infante *Don Ferdinand*: The Pope's Nuncio also being admitted to an Audience of his Majesty, assured him, the Pope would entirely approve of his resuming the Crown. Induced by these Reasons, King *Philip* sign'd on the 6th of *September*, the following Declaration:

I HAVE seriously considered every thing that the Council does represent to me in this Supplication, as well as in the former, dated the 4th Instant, as the Result of their Consultations in the present Emergency.

Altho' I was firmly determined never to leave my Retirement, upon any Account whatsoever, yet willing to

condescend to the earnest Instances made to me by the Council in these two Supplications, to resume and take upon me the Charge of the Government of this Monarchy, as natural Sovereign and Proprietor; and yielding to their farther representing to me, that I am bound in Justice and Conscience to do it, I have resolved, out of the great Value and Esteem I have for the Advice of the Council, and in Consideration of the Zeal and constant Affection, which is so conspicuous in the Members of it, to sacrifice myself to the general Welfare of this Monarchy, and of the People my Subjects; the more still, considering the Obligation which the Council finds I am under, as their natural Prince and Sovereign; reserving however to myself to leave the Government of this Monarchy to the Prince my eldest Son, when he comes to due Age and Capacity; provided always, there be not at that Time too great Inconveniences that may hinder it. I agree likewise to the calling, as soon as possible, the Cortes, to recognize the Infante Don Ferdinand as Prince of Spain, and to make to him the accustomed Oaths, as Presumptive Heir of the Crown.

Accordingly King Philip was again proclaimed King of Spain, and the Cortes being assembled, recogniz'd the Infante Don Ferdinand for Prince of Spain.

On Occasion of the Death of King Lewis, we will give our Readers a View of the present Royal Family of Spain, viz.

**PHILIP V.** (who lately resign'd the Crown, and has now resum'd it) is the second Son of Lewis late Dauphin of France, and of Mary-Anne of Bavaria, was born December 19, N. S. 1683, and before he was called to the Throne of Spain, was styled Duke of Anjou.

His first Wife was Mary-Louisa-Gabriela, Daughter of Victor-Amadeus, Duke of Savoy, now King of Sardinia, and of Anne Daughter of Philip Duke of Orleans, by the Princess Henrietta, Daughter to King Charles I. of England: She was born Sept. 17, 1688, marry'd Nov. 3, 1701, and dy'd Feb. 14, 1714, leaving Issue,

1. **Louis**, Prince of the Asturias, the late King of Spain, who was born at Madrid, Aug. 25, 1707, and marry'd Nov. 16, 1721, to Mademoiselle de Montpensier, Daughter to the late Duke of Orleans, born Dec. 21, 1709.

2. **Don Philip**, Infante of Spain, born at Madrid, June 7, 1712. Since dead. And

3. **Don**



3. *Don Ferdinand*, Infante of *Spain*, born at *Madrid*, *Sept. 23, 1713.*

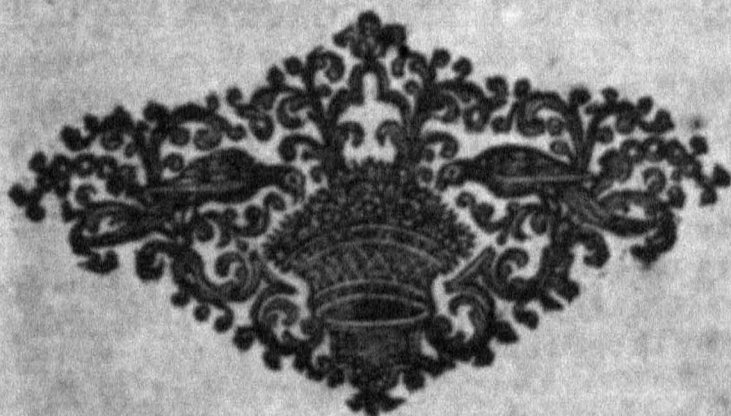
King *Philip's* second Wife, his present Consort, was marry'd to him in the Year 1714. She is *Elizabeth*, only Daughter of *Odoard Farnese*, Hereditary Prince of *Parma*, and was born *Oct. 25, 1692*, and has had Issue,

1. *Don Carlos*, Infante of *Spain*, born *Jan. 10, 1716*, and marry'd *Nov. 26, 1722*, to *Philippa-Elizabeth*, *Madeinoiselle de Beaujolois*, another Daughter of the late Duke of *Orleans*. born *Dec. 18, 1714.*

2. *Don Francisco*, Infante of *Spain*, born *March 21, 1717*, and dy'd a Month after.

3. ——— Infanta of *Spain*, born *March 31, 1718*, and marry'd *Nov. 25, 1721*, to *Lewis XV.* the present King of *France*, who was born *Feb. 15, 1710.*

F I N I S.



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NUMBER XXXVI.

F R A N C E



SEVERAL of the preceding *Registers* having been chiefly taken up with Domestick Occurrences, we shall now take Notice of the most remarkable Transactions that have happen'd in Foreign Countries; among which may justly be reckon'd the following Declaration, publish'd by the *French King* against his Protestant Subjects, which was little expected, even in that Kingdom; and was a Matter of Surprise to many *Roman Catholics* themselves; who having seen and felt the ill Consequences of the Revocation of the Edict of *Nantes*, which forc'd so great a Number of People to abandon their native Country, and to carry away with them their Fortunes and Industry, to the unspeakable Prejudice of the Kingdom, could not behold without Astonishment, the same violent Methods reviv'd, after having been discontinu'd from the Death of the late King *Lewis XIV.* and being perswaded that the like Severities would produce the like Effects, and force away the remaining Part of the Protestants, or at least the greatest Number of them; which they thought would inevitably be highly prejudicial to the Kingdom, especially after their having lost a prodigious Number of Inhabitants, not only by the late bloody War, but likewise by the Famine with which their Country was afflicted for several Years, and last of all by the Plague, which had lately swept away so great a Multitude of

People in the Southern Parts of *France*: But notwithstanding all those Considerations, the Government there thought fit to publish the following Declaration:

*The King's Declaration concerning Religion. Given at Versailles, May 14, 1724.*

**L**EWIS by the Grace of God, King of *France* and *Navarre*, to all those to whom these present Letters shall come, Greeting.

Of all the great Designs which the late King, our most Honoured Lord and Great Grandfather, did form during the Course of his Reign, there is none we have more at Heart to pursue and to see executed, than that he had conceived, utterly to extinguish all Heresy in his Kingdom, to which he apply'd himself with an indefatigable Care, to the last Moment of his Life. With a View to support a Work so worthy of his Zeal and Piety, we came no sooner to be of Age, but our first and chief Care was to have represented to us the Edicts, Declarations, and Arrêts of the Council issu'd upon that Subject, in Order to renew the Dispositions made therein, and to enjoin all our Officers to have them observ'd in the strictest Manner possible; but we have been inform'd, that for several Years past, there has been a Remissness in the Execution thereof, especially in the Provinces that have been afflicted with the Plague, and in which there is a greater Number of our Subjects that formerly have made Profession of the pretended Reformed Religion; and this, through the false and dangerous Impressions which some amongst them, who were not sincerely re-united to the Catholick, Apostolical, and *Roman* Religion, and being besides prompted by Insultations from abroad, have endeavour'd secretly to insinuate during our Minority: All which having induced us to give a new Attention to a Matter of so high Importance, we have found that the chief Abuses that have crept in, and which call for the speediest Remedy, relate principally to the unlawful Meetings, the Education of the Children, the Obligation under which are all those who have any publick Employment, to profess the Catholick, Apostolical, and *Roman* Religion, the Pains and Penalties against the Relapsed, and the Marriages: Upon all which Heads, we have resolv'd to explain our Intentions in plain and express Terms. For which Reasons, by the Advice of our Council, and out of our special Grace,

full



full Power and Royal Authority, we have declared and ordained, and by these Presents, signed with our own Hand, do declare, ordain, will, and please,

Article I.

• That the *Roman* Catholick and Apostolical Religion be the only one practised in this Kingdom, and all our other Dominions; forbidding all our Subjects, of what Condition or Quality soever they be, to perform any other Exercise of Religion than that of the Catholick Faith, and to meet for that Purpose in any Place under any Pretext whatsoever, upon Pain, if a Man, to be sent to the Gallies for Life, and if a Woman, to be shaved, and confin'd for ever to such Places as our Judges shall think fit, and to have both their Estates confiscated, and even upon Pain of Death, if they meet in Arms.

II.

Being inform'd, that many Preachers are risen and rise up daily in our Kingdom, who make it their only Business to excite the People to revolt, and divert them from the Duties of the *Roman* Catholick Religion; we ordain, That all Preachers that shall have held Meetings, preach'd therein, or done any Function, be punished with Death, according to the Declaration of the Month of July, 1686, against the Ministers of the pretended Reformed Religion; so that the said Pain of Death may not be deemed for the future only Commutatory. We likewise forbid all our Subjects to receive the abovesaid Ministers or Preachers, to harbour, aid and assist them, or to have any Communication directly or indirectly with them. And we enjoin those that shall know any thing of it, to give the proper Officer of that Place Notice of it: All this on Pain, in Case of Contravention, to be sent to the Gallies for Life, if a Man, and if a Woman, to be shaved, and confin'd during her Life to such Places as the Judges shall think fit, and to have both their Estates confiscated.

III.

We ordain and command all our Subjects, and especially those that have formerly been of the pretended Reformed Religion, or which are born of such Parents, to have their Children christen'd in the Parish-Church where they live, within twenty-four Hours after they have been born; unless they have got a Licence of the Archbishop or Bishop of the Diocese to put off the Ceremonies of Baptism for weighty Reasons. We also en-

Joyn the Midwives and other Persons that assist Women in their Labour, to give Notice to the Curate of the Place where the Child is born; as also our Officers, and those of the Lords who have a Right of high Justice, [*That is, to appoint in their respective Jurisdictions, Judges and other Officers to administer Justice.*] to see it strictly executed, and to fine the Transgressors, or to punish them more severely, according to the Nature of the Case.

## IV.

As to the Education of the Children of Parents that formerly have been of the pretended Reformed Religion, or that are born of Parents that have professed the same, our Will is, That the Edict of the Month of January, 1686, and the Declarations of the 13th of December, 1698, and the 16th of October, 1700, be fully executed. And moreover, by Way of Addition to the same, we forbid all our Subjects to send their Children out of the Kingdom to be educated, unless they have first obtain'd from us a Permission in Writing, sign'd by one of our Secretaries of State; which we will not grant 'till we have been fully satisfied that their Parents are good Catholics. And this on Penalty, in Case of Contravention, of a Fine to be impos'd in Proportion to the Estate and Substance of the Parents; which Fine however, shall not be less than 6000 Livres, and shall be continu'd for as many Years as their Children shall stay abroad against our Prohibitions; which we enjoin our Judges to see strictly executed.

## V.

Our Will is, That Schoolmasters and Mistresses be set up, if possible, in all the Parishes where there are none, in Order to instruct all the Children of both Sexes in the chief Mysteries and Duties of the Roman Catholick Religion, to carry them to Mass every working Day, if it be possible, to give them the necessary Instructions upon that Subject, and to take Care that they go to Church Sunday and Holidays; as also to teach them to read, and even to write, if there be Occasion for the latter: All this, according to the Direction of the Archbishops and Bishops, pursuant to the twenty-fifth Article of the Edict of 1695, concerning Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction: For which End, 'tis our Will, That in those Places, where there is no Fund for it, the Sum which shall be wanted for establishing the said Masters and Mistresses, shall be raised by the Inhabitants, not exceeding

150 Livres for a Master, and 100 Livres for a Mistress; and that the Orders for that Purpose shall be issu'd gratis, upon Notice given us, by the Archbishops, Bishops, and Commissaries, established in our Provinces, for executing our Orders.

VI.

We enjoyn every Father and Mother, Tutors, and other Persons, to whose Care the Education of Children is committed; and particularly of those Children whose Father or Mother has ever professed the pretended Reformed Religion, or which are born of Parents of that Religion, to send them to Schools, and to be catechised 'till they are 14 Years old; even those that have passed that Age, are to be sent to the publick Instructions every Sunday and Holiday, 'till they come to the Age of 20, unless they be Persons of such Quality as are able and bound to have them instructed at Home; or to send them to Colleges, or else put them into Monasteries, or regular Communities. And we enjoyn all Curates to have a watchful Eye over the Instruction of the said Children in their several Parishes, even with Respect to those that do not go to School. We exhort and enjoyn at the same Time, the Archbishops and Bishops, carefully to inform themselves about it; and we command those Fathers and others, under whose Education those Children are; and in particular, those that are distinguish'd by Birth, or by their Employments, to present their Children they have at Home, whenever the Archbishops or Bishops shall call for them in the Course of their Visitation, to give them an Account of the Instructions they have had in Matters of Religion. And our Judges, Attornies, and those of the High Justiciaries, are charged to make all diligent Enquiry, and to give the necessary Orders for executing our Will in that Respect, and to fine those that shall be negligent in their Duty, or so bold, as in the least to contravene: Which Fines, notwithstanding any Appeal, are to be paid provisionally, how great soever they may be.

VII.

And for rendring the Execution of the preceding Article still more effectual, our Will is, That our Attornies, and those of the High Justiciaries, shall cause to be put into their Hands every Month, by the Curates, Vicars, Schoolmasters and Mistresses, or others entrusted therewith, an exact List of all the Children who shall not go to School, or to the publick Catechising and Instructions,



tions, with an Account of their Names, Age, Sex, and of the Names of their Parents, Tutors, and Guardians, or others entrusted with their Education; and that they shall take Care to give an Account, at least every six Months, to our Attornies-General, every one in their several Districts, of what Diligence they have used in this Respect; to the End that they may receive the necessary Orders and Directions from them.

## VIII.

And forasmuch as the Assistance of spiritual Guides is in no Time so necessary, especially to such of our Subjects as have been lately reconciled to the Church, as in Case of Sicknes, which equally endangers both their Life and Salvation; our Will is, that the Physicians, or if there be none, the Apothecaries and Surgeons that shall be called to visit the Sick, be obliged to give Notice thereof to the Curates and Vicars of the Parishes wherein the Sick live, as soon as they shall think that their Illness is dangerous, if they find not that they have already been sent for, to the End that the said sick Persons, and particularly the new Converts, may receive the spiritual Advice and Consolation which they may stand in Need of, together with the Benefit of the Sacraments, whenever the Curates and Vicars shall find they are fit to receive them. We enjoyn likewise the Parents, Servants, and all other Persons that shall be about the said Sick, to give them free Access, and to receive them with all the Respect and Deference due to their Character: And we will, That such of the said Physicians, Apothecaries, and Surgeons, as shall have neglected their Duty in this Respect, and likewise all Parents, Servants, and others attending the Sick, who shall refuse to the said Curates and Vicars, or Priests sent by them, Access to the Sick, shall be fined according to their Offence. And even that the Physicians, Apothecaries, and Surgeons, shall be forbid the Exercise of their Professions upon the second Default. All this according as the Case shall require.

## IX.

We likewise enjoyn all Curates Vicars, and others charged with the Cure of Souls, to be diligent in visiting the Sick, of what Condition and Quality soever they be; and particularly those that have been of the pretended Reformed Religion, or are born of such Parents, to exhort them in private, and by themselves, to receive the Sacraments of the Church, giving them for that Pur-

pose, all necessary Instructions, with all the Prudence and Charity becoming their Ministry; and in Case out of Contempt of their Salutary Exhortations and Advices, the said Sick do refuse to take the Sacraments so offered to them, and declare afterwards publickly, that they will die in the pretended Reformed Religion, and persist in the Declaration made by them during their Sickness; our Will is, That after they are recovered, our Bailiffs and Stewards shall prosecute them at the Request of our Attornies; in Pursuance of which they are to be banish'd for ever, and have their Estates confiscated; and in those Places where the Estates cannot be confiscated, they shall pay a Fine which shall not be less than the Moiety of their Estates. If on the contrary, they happen to die in such an unhappy Condition, we ordain, That even their Memory shall be prosecuted by the said Bailiffs and Stewards, at the Request of our Attornies, in the Form as directed by the Articles of the twenty-second Title of our Ordinance of the Month of *August*, 1670, to the Effect that their Memory be condemned, and their Estates confiscated, repealing hereby the other Penalties contain'd in the Declarations of the 29th of *April*, 1686, and the 8th of *March*, 1715; which for the rest shall be put in Execution so far as they are not contrary to this Article. And in Case there be no Royal Bailiwick in the Place, where such a Fact shall have happen'd, our Provoists and Royal Judges, and if there be no such, the Judges of High Justiciaries shall take the Informations, and send to the Register Office of our Bailiwicks and Stewartries, under whose Jurisdiction the said Judges are; or to those that take Cognizance of Royal Cases, within the Extent of the above said High Justices, in Order to proceed and pronounce Sentence against them, from which however, they may appeal to our Courts of Parliament.

X.

Our Will is, That the Contents of the preceding Article be executed without any other Proof of the Crime of Relapse, than the sick Person's refusing to receive the Sacraments of the Church offered to him by the Curates, Vicars, and others entrusted with the Cure of Souls, and his publick Declaration, as mentioned above, shall be a sufficient Proof, both of his Refusal, and of his publick Declaration, warranted by the Deposition of the Curates, Vicars, and others that have the Cure of Souls, and of those that have been present when he made

the

the said Declaration. So that it will be needless for the Judges to go to the said sick Persons Houses, to draw up a verbal Process of their Refusal and Declaration; neither shall the said Curates or Vicars that have visited the said sick Persons, be obliged to send for the said Officers to come, or inform them of the Refusal and Declaration made to them, reversing in this Respect, the Declarations of the 29th of *April*, 1686; and the 8th of *March*, 1715, so far as they are contrary to the present and preceding Articles.

## XI.

And whereas we are inform'd, That what contributes most to confirm, or make the said sick Persons fall again into their former Errors, is, the Presence and the Exhortations of some conceal'd Protestants, who secretly assist them in the Condition they are then in, and take Advantage of the Principles they have been prepossessed with from their Infancy, and of the weak State they are reduc'd to by Sickness, to make them die out of the Bosom of the Church; we ordain, That our Bailiffs and Stewards shall proceed in the Manner aforesaid against those that shall be found guilty of this Crime; whereof our Provosts or Royal Judges may make Enquiries; as likewise the Judges of the High Justiciaries, in such Places where such a Thing shall happen, in Case they be not under a Bailiwick or Royal Stewartry; on Condition however, to send their Informations to the Royal Bailiwick, as above, in Order to be try'd and condemned, if guilty, by our Bailiffs and Stewards, *viz.* The Men to the Gallies, either for Life, or for a limited Time, as the Judges shall think fit; and the Women to be shav'd, and confined to such Places as our Judges shall order, either for Life, or for a certain Time; which we leave likewise to their prudent Discretion.

## XII.

We ordain, That pursuant to the former Ordinances of the Kings, our Predecessors, and the Practice observ'd in our Kingdom, none of our Subjects shall be receiv'd and employ'd in any Place of Judicature in our Courts, Bailiwicks, Stewartries, Provostships, and Judicatories, neither in those of the High Justices, nor in Places of Mayors and Aldermen, and other Officers of Town-Houses, whether they come to it by Virtue of their Office, or by Election, or otherwise, including even all Offices of Registers, Attornies, Notaries, Serjeants and Bailiffs, of what Jurisdiction soever they be; and in general, none shall



shall be admitted into any publick Office or Function, either by their own Right or Commission, even in the Places of our Household and our Royal Palaces, unless they have a Certificate from the Curate, or in his Absence, from the Vicar of the Parish in which they live, of their good Life and Behaviour, and that they actually follow and practise the *Roman Catholick* and *Apostolical* Religion.

## XIII.

Our Will is likewise, That no Licences shall be granted in the Universities of our Kingdom, to those that have studied in Law or in Physick, without such Certificates from the Curates, which they shall produce to those that are to give them the said Licences: Which Certificates shall be mention'd in the Letters of Licence to be drawn up and delivered to them, in Default of which, they shall be void. This Regulation however shall not extend to Foreigners that shall come to study and take the Degrees in the Universities of our Kingdom, on Condition, that in Conformity of the Declaration of the 26th of *February*, 1680, and the Edict of the Month of *March*, 1707, the Degrees they have thus obtained, shall be of no Use to them in our Kingdom.

## XIV.

The Physicians, Surgeons, Apothecaries, and Midwives, as also the Booksellers and Printers, shall likewise not be permitted to practise and carry on their Trade in any Place of our Kingdom, without producing such a Certificate, which shall be mentioned in their Licences; as also in the Sentence given by the Judges, with Respect to those that are to take the Oath before them, without which all shall be void.

## XV.

Our Will is, That the Ordinances, Edicts, and Declarations of the Kings our Predecessors, relating to Marriages, and particularly the Edict of the Month of *March*, 1697, and the Declaration of the 15th of *June* of the same Year, be executed in their full Extent by our Subjects lately reconciled to the Catholick Faith, in the same Manner as they are by all our other Subjects; enjoining them to observe in the Marriages they are willing to contract, the Solemnities prescribed by the Canon Law, received and observed in this Kingdom, as also by the aforesaid Ordinances, Edicts, and Declarations; All this upon the Penalties contain'd therein, and

even upon exemplary Punishment, as the Case shall require.

## XVI.

The Children under Age, whose Parents, Tutors, or Guardians, are gone out of our Kingdom, and retired into foreign Countries, on Account of Religion, may lawfully contract Marriage, without asking and staying for the Consent of their said absent Parents, Tutors, or Guardians; on Condition however, to do it with the Consent and Advice of their Tutors and Guardians, if they have any in the Kingdom, and if not, others shall be named for that Purpose, as also with the Agreement of their Relations, if there be any, and if they have none, of their Friends and Neighbours. To which End, our Will is, That before they proceed to the Contract and the Celebration of their Marriage, there shall be called together before the Royal Judge of the Place of their Abode, in the Presence of our Attorney; or in Case there is no Royal Judge there, before the Ordinary Judge of that Place, and the Attorney Fiscal, six of the nearest Relations, as well on the Father's as the Mother's Side, and such as are good *Roman* Catholicks, besides the Tutor and Guardian of the said Minors; and for Want of Relations, six Friends or Neighbours equally qualify'd, to give their Advice and Consent, if there be Occasion; and the requisite Writings shall be made and delivered them gratis, and without paying the Fees for the Justice, Seal, Controll, Insinuations, or others: But in Case that only the Father or Mother of the said Minors be gone out of the said Kingdom, then it shall suffice to call together three of the nearest Relations to either of the Parents that has left the Kingdom; or for Want of them, three Neighbours or Friends, which, with the Father or the Mother, who shall be present, and the Tutor and Guardian, if there be any besides the Father or Mother, shall give their Advice and Consent, if there be Occasion, to the proposed Marriage; which Consent in all the Cases above specify'd, shall be summarily mention'd in the Contract of Marriage, which is to be sign'd by the aforesaid Father or Mother, Tutor, or Guardian, Relations, Neighbours, or Friends, as likewise in the Parish Books where they are to be marry'd; so that in all these Cases the said Children shall not incur the Punishments set forth in the Ordinances against Children of good Families that marry against their Parents Consent. To which Purpose, we

have

have repealed and repeal only in this Regard the said Ordinances, which for the rest shall remain in Force, and be fully executed.

## XVII.

We forbid all our Subjects, of what Condition and Quality soever, to consent or approve that their Children, or those whose Tutors and Guardians they shall be, marry in foreign Countries, either by signing the Contracts of the said Marriages, or by a foregoing or subsequent Deed, for what Cause, and under what Pretext soever, without our special Permission in Writing, signed by one of our Secretaries of State, upon Pain of being sent to the Gallies for Life, if a Man, and if a Woman, to be banish'd for ever, and besides, to have both their Estates confiscated; and where Confiscation cannot take Place, to pay a Fine, which shall not be less than the Half of their Estates.

## XVIII.

Our Will is, That in all the Arrets and Judgments which shall include Confiscation of those that shall have incurred it, by Virtue of the different Dispositions of our present Declaration, our Courts and our other Judges ordain, That out of the Estates situated in Countries where Confiscation does not take Place, or where their Estates by their Nature, are not subject to Confiscation, or that shall not be confiscated for our Behoof, a Fine shall be levied, that shall not be less than the Half of the said Estates; which Fine, as likewise the confiscated Estate, shall be put into the Hands of those that have the Administration of the forfeited Estates of the absent Protestants, to be employ'd with the Revenue of the said Estates for the Maintenance of our new Convert Subjects that shall want that Assistance; which shall likewise be observ'd with Regard to all other Fines, of what Nature soever they be, that shall be impos'd upon those that contravene and act against this our Declaration, so that the Receivers or Farmers of our Domains shall lay no Claim to the same.

Thus we command all our beloved and trusty Counsellors in our Courts of Parliament, and all our other Officers and Justices whom it may concern, to cause the present Declaration to be read, published, and register'd, and to have all the Contents thereof observed and executed in every Point, according to their Form and Tenor.

Given at Versailles the 14th of May, 1724, and of our Reign the 9th. Sign'd L E W I S, and countersign'd by