

be referr'd to the Committee of the whole House, upon the Bill for the Sale of the forfeited Estates. Then a Motion being made and the Question put, that it be an Instruction to the said Committee, 'That they do provide in the Bill, that a Proportion of the near Produce of the forfeited Estates be reserved to his Majesty, to be disposed of to the Wives or Children of such forfeiting Persons as his Majesty shall judge to be proper Objects of his Royal Compassion:' It pass'd in the Negative. After this, the farther Consideration of the said Bill was put off 'till the Tuesday following.

Feb. 18. The Order of the Day being read, to consider farther, in a Grand Committee, of the Bill for Sale of the forfeited Estates, it was order'd, That it be an Instruction to the said Committee, That they have Power to receive a Clause to extinguish a Pension of 5000*l.* per Annum, granted by her late Majesty out of the Revenue of *Ireland*, to the late Duke of *Ormond*, after all just Claims and Demands thereupon are satisfy'd; and that Day, and on the 20th, they made a farther Progress in the said Bill, and went through it on the 21st.

On the 22d they proceeded to consider the Matter of the Petition of several Merchants and Owners of Ships, that had been presented to them on the 19th, in Behalf of themselves and others, trading to and from *Sweden*, praying, That the present Circumstances of the Trade to *Sweden* might be taken into the Consideration of this House; and the Petitioners were call'd in, and the Petition was read, and the Petitioners were heard upon it; and some of the Traders to *Sweden* who had not sign'd the Petition, were likewise heard. Among the rest Mr. *Axtel*, one of those Traders, shew'd the Reasons of the Decay of the Trade to *Sweden*, and how the *Dutch* are Gainers, while the *English* are Losers by it. Then the Petitioners and other Traders being withdrawn, the farther Consideration of the Matter of the said Petition was adjourn'd to the 28th.

Feb. 24. The Order of the Day being read, for the hearing the Matter of the Petition of *Thomas Gage*, and *Samuel Edwin*, Esqs; complaining of an undue Election and Return for the Borough of *Mirebend* in the County of *Somerset*, the Counsel for the Petitioners and sitting Members were call'd in, and the Petition

tion was read. After which the Counsel for the Petitioners acquainted the House, That the Petitioner, Mr. *Edwin*, wav'd the Matter of his Petition; and that the Petitioner, Mr. *Gage*, did not contest Mr. *Milner's* Election; but should proceed to disqualify several of the Voters for the sitting Member, Sir *John Trevelyan*, and to add several to the Poll for Mr. *Gage*, and thereby should make a Majority for Mr. *Gage*; and examin'd several Witnesses, on the Petitioners Part, touching the Right of the Election; and also the sitting Members Counsel were heard, and several Witnesses examin'd on their Part touching the same, and then the Counsel withdrew. Then it was resolv'd, That the Right of Election of Burgesses to serve in Parliament for the Borough of *Minehead* in the County of *Somerset*, is in the Parishioners of *Minehead* and *Dunster*, being House-keepers in the Borough of *Minehead*, and not receiving Alms: And the Counsel were call'd in again, and Mr. Speaker acquainted them with the said Resolution. Then the Petitioners Counsel proceeded, and examin'd Witnesses in order to qualify several Persons who offer'd to vote for the Petitioners, but were refus'd; and also to disqualify several Persons who voted for the sitting Members; some, as not being House-keepers; and others, upon the Account of Bribery: And then the Counsel were directed to withdraw. The Court-Party, who supported Mr. *Gage*, finding that it was like to go against him, a Motion was made and the Question put, That the farther Consideration of the Merits of the Election for the Borough of *Minehead*, be adjourn'd 'till Wednesday Morning next: But it was four several Times carry'd in the Negative; and after Counsel had again been heard, and several Witnesses examin'd, it was resolv'd, That Sir *John Trevelyan*, Bart; and *James Milner*, Esq; are duly elected Burgesses to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough of *Minehead*.

Feb. 25. Mr. *Furter*, from the Committee of the whole House, reported the Amendments made to the Bill for Sale of the forfeited Estates, which, with some Amendments, were agreed to, and the Bill, so amended, order'd to be engross'd.

Feb. 26. Mr. *Falkner* presented to the House several Memorials by him presented to the Regency of Sweden, in relation to the Captures of *British* Ship by

by the *Swedish* Privateers, with the Answers of the Regency of *Sweden* thereupon: Which Papers were order'd to lie on the Table. Then a Petition of the *Muscovia* Company, in Behalf of themselves and others, was presented to the House and read, complaining, That notwithstanding his Majesty has been graciously pleas'd to direct his Ministers in *Sweden*, to make earnest and repeated Demands for the Reparation of past, and the preventing future Captures of their Ships, yet they have had no Satisfaction from thence; and praying this House to take their Case into Consideration, and provide for their Relief in such Manner as shall be thought meet: Upon which it was order'd, That the said Petition should be taken into Consideration the next Morning.

Accordingly, on *Feb. 27*, the House proceeded to take into farther Consideration the Matter of the Petition of several Merchants and Owners of Shipping, and the other Petitions which had been presented to the House in Relation to the Trade to and from *Sweden*: And the Extracts of the Letters between the Secretaries of State, and his Majesty's Residents in *Holland*; and also the Memorials which Mr. *Jackson* presented to the Regency of *Sweden*, and the Answers to them, which had been laid before the House; were read; after which Mr. *Jackson* was call'd in, and heard. Among other Questions that were put to him, Mr. *Craggs* ask'd him, whether he was of Opinion, That if the Trade were open'd with *Sweden*, our Merchants would be upon a better Foot than they are at present? Mr. *Jackson* answer'd, 'That, in his Opinion, the contrary would happen: For now that the *Swedes* are distress'd for want of our Commodities, particularly Corn and Salt, they are inclin'd to facilitate to us, underhand, the Purchase of their Iron; whereas if the Prohibition of Trade with them was taken off, they would immediately provide themselves with what they want; and knowing at the same Time, that there are amongst us a Set of Men, who make it their Study and Business to embarrass the Government, the Court of *Sweden* would be more stiff than ever, and render the Purchase of their Iron more difficult to us.' Some Members of the House being offended at Mr. *Jackson's* Reflexion on a Set of Men, (by which 'twas plain he meant the Tory-Party) cry'd out, *Custody*

dy, Custody: But the more moderate contented themselves with putting him upon explaining himself: Hereupon Mr. Jackson reply'd, That he meant the Merchants who presented unreasonable Petitions. This being by some look'd upon rather as an Aggravation than an Excuse, the Cry of *Custody, Custody*, was repeated; but Mr. Robert Walpole brought him off, by suggesting, 'That that Gentleman had liv'd
' so long in a despotick Government, where Petitions
' and Representations of that Nature are accounted
' capital Crimes, that he had forgot the Rights and
' Privileges of his Countrymen; and therefore mov'd,
' that his unguarded Expressions might be excus'd;
' and no Body opposing Mr. Walpole, Mr. Jackson withdrew. Their the Petitioners, and some other Merchants being call'd in, and farther heard, they represented, among other Particulars, 'That since the
' Prohibition of Trade with Sweden, they bought
' Swedish Iron of the Dutch, 4l. per Ton dearer than
' before; and that whereas the English were formerly
' about 30000l. per Annum Gainers by the Trade with
' Sweden, they now lost about 90000l.' But this was contradicted by Mr. C——, who suggested, That the Exports from Stockholm for England had never amounted to 120000l. in one Year; and therefore the Difference of the Profit and Loss could not come up to this last Sum. The Merchants being withdrawn, Mr. Heyham spoke in their Favour, and made a Motion, upon which the Question was propos'd, That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, that he would be graciously pleas'd to take into his Royal Consideration the State of the Trade with Sweden, and that such Measures might be taken, that his Majesty's Subjects, and those of his Allies, might carry on the said Trade in the same Manner. Hereupon there arose a pretty warm Debate, in which Mr. Gages represented, 'That such an Address would be derogatory to the King's Honour, and even a Reflexion on the Parliament, who had desir'd his Majesty to prohibit all Commerce with Sweden; and that on the other Hand, such an Address was altogether needless, since his Majesty's Wisdom would not fail to apply all proper Remedies to the Evil that was complain'd of.' Hereupon Sir W——m W——m said, 'That the Prohibition of Trade with Sweden having been thought convenient, when there was some Grounds to fear an
' Inva-

‘ Invasion from thence, now that Apprehension was
 ‘ entirely over, it would be no Reflexion, either on
 ‘ the King or his Parliament, to take off the said Pro-
 ‘ hibition; and that he wonder’d we should distress
 ‘ and endeavour to ruin a Prince and Nation, who
 ‘ have ever been the Support of the Protestant Inte-
 ‘ rest, and whom, by Treaties, we stand oblig’d to
 ‘ defend and protect. After some other Speeches *pro*
 ‘ and *con*, it was resolv’d by a Majority of 201 Votes
 against 111, to adjourn the Debate ‘till that Day
 Month.

March 4. The Lords read the first Time The Bill
 for vesting the forfeited Estates in *Great Britain* and
Ireland in Trustees, to be sold for the Use of the Pub-
 lick; and the Question being put that the Bill be
 read a second Time, it occasion’d a great Debate: The
 Lord *North* and *Grey* spoke first against it, and urg’d
 the excessive Power which the Bill gave the Trustees,
 and by which many Families might be oppress’d and
 ruin’d: His Lordship was seconded and supported by
 the Lords *Trevor* and *Harcourt*, the Duke of *Argyle*,
 and some others, who, among other Reasons, urg’d,
 ‘ That this Bill, by leaving the Claims to the forfeit-
 ‘ ed Estates, to the final Determination of the Tru-
 ‘ stees, not only clath’d with the Act of Union,
 ‘ in that it suspended and set aside, in that
 ‘ respect, the Courts of Judicature in *North Bri-*
 ‘ *tain*, which, by the said Act, ought to remain en-
 ‘ tire; but was likewise derogatory to the Privileges
 ‘ and Authority of the House of Peers, who are
 ‘ supreme Judges in all civil Causes.’ It was also al-
 ledg’d, That by the Method that had been follow’d,
 the Publick would get little or nothing by the For-
 feitures: whereas, if the Scheme propos’d by Sir
David Dalrymple had been pursu’d, the same would
 have yielded considerable Sums, without any Oppres-
 sion to the Subject. The Earl of *Sunderland*, and the
 Lords *Stanhope*, *Parker*, and *Coningsby*, answer’d the
 Objections rais’d against the Bill; and it was at last
 resolv’d, That it should be read a second Time; and a
 Message sent to the Commons, to acquaint them,
 ‘ That their Lordships having that Bill under their
 ‘ Consideration, they did desire that the Commons
 ‘ would give Leave, that such of the Commissioners
 ‘ of Enquiry who were Members of that House, as
 ‘ also Sir *David Dalrymple*, his Majesty’s Advocate Ge-

General of *Scotland*, might attend their Lordships House the Thursday following.' This Message being immediately sent to the Commons, they resolv'd, 1. That they would send an Answer to it by Messengers of their own. And 2. That they would the next Morning take the said Message into farther Consideration.

Accordingly the next Day (*March 5.*) the Commons proceeded to take the said Message into Consideration; and appointed a Committee to search Precedents with relation to it. Mr. *Lechmere* being chosen Chairman of that Committee, which sat till late in the Night, reported the next Day (*March 6.*) to the House That they had search'd the Journals of the House, and had directed him to report what they had found therein; and he read the same in his Place, and then deliver'd the Report in at the Table. It appearing by this Report, that the like Desire of the Lords had, on some Occasions, been comply'd with, and at other Times deny'd, the Commons, who were now resolv'd to follow the Precedents for the latter, lest the Lords should make Alterations in a Money Bill, put off the Consideration of the said Report till the next Day. Hereupon the Lords, who had waited for an Answer from the Commons till three a Clock in the Afternoon, proceeded to the second Reading of the Bill, and it being mov'd to have it committed, it occasion'd a great Debate. The Lord *Harcourt*, the Earl of *Ilay*, and the Duke of *Argyle* urg'd several Reasons against the Bill; and were answer'd by the Lords *Cowper*, *Stanhope*, and *Coningsby*; and after some other Speeches for and against it, the Question being put, it was carry'd in the Affirmative by 80 Votes or Proxies against 73, and resolv'd, That the said Bill be refer'd to a Committee of the whole House the Saturday next following. In the mean Time, the Commons having met again on Friday the 7th of *March*, read only a Petition of the Tanners in the County of *Brecon*, and then immediately adjourn'd till Monday the 10th to avoid taking into farther Consideration either the Lords Message, or the Report of their own Committee about Precedents.

On *March 8.* there was a great Debate in the House of Lords upon the third reading of a Bill from the Commons, entitl'd, *An Act to empower the Commissioners appointed to put in Execution the Act for Building*

fifty new Churches in London and Westminster, to direct the Parish-Church of St. Gyles's in the Fields, in the County of Middlesex, to be rebuilt, instead of one of the said new Churches. The Archbishop of York and some other Prelates strenuously oppos'd this Bill, urging, among other Arguments, That it was a Misapplication of Money already granted by Parliament for a pious Use. It was also propos'd, that in the Preamble of the said Bill, the Words of *pious Memory* should be added, after the Name of the late Queen; but it was carry'd by a Majority of seven Voices, that the Bill pass without any Amendment; whereupon the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of London, Hereford, Bristol, and Rochester, the Earls Powlet, and Oxford, and the Lords Foley, Willoughby of Broke, Masham, Berkley, and Mansel, enter'd their Protests. The same Day the Lords, in a Committee of the whole House, took into Consideration the Bill for Sale of the forfeited Estates, and notwithstanding the great Opposition that was made to most of its Clauses, they went through it without any Amendment.

March 10. The Commons met again, and the House being mov'd, that some Clauses in the Act of the last Session of Parliament, entitled, *An Act for redeeming several Funds of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, &c.* relating to the redeeming of the Annuity payable to the Bank for circulating and exchanging Exchequer Bills might be read, they were read accordingly; and thereupon resolv'd, That Notice be given to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, that this House will at Lady-Day 1719, redeem the Annuities of 76830*l.* 15*s.* payable to them for circulating and exchanging Exchequer Bills; and order'd that Mr. Speaker do on or before Lady-Day 1718, signify the said Resolution in Writing to the said Governor and Company: And then the House adjourn'd 'till Friday the 14.

March 11. The Lords, in a Grand Committee, made several Amendments to the Bill for the farther preventing Robberies, and for the more effectual Transportation of Felons; after which their Lordships read the third Time the Bill for vesting the forfeited Estates in Trustees, &c. and a Motion being made that the Bill do pass, there arose a Debate that lasted from four 'till seven a Clock in the Afternoon, when the Question being put upon the said Motion, it was carry'd in the

the Affirmative by a Majority of six Votes only, viz. 82 against 76.

March 12. The Lords agreed to the Amendments made in the Committee of the whole House, to the *Bill for the Transportation of Felons*; and then their Lordships heard Counsel against the *Bill for continuing a Duty on the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, for repairing of Dover Harbour*. The chief Reasons which were offer'd to their Lordships, either in Print, or *Viva Voce*, were as follows:

I. **D**OVER Harbour hath for many Years been a Burthen to the Trade and Navigation of this Kingdom, by having large Sums of Money rais'd on the same, for the Repair of the said Harbour, under a Pretence of making it a convenient Place to receive Ships in Stress of Weather.

II. The Situation of the said Harbour being such, that whenever the Wind blows hard from the Sea, that is, from South East to South West, the Entrance of the Peer is choak'd up with small Stones, wash'd in by the Wind and Sea, that very often at high Water, a Hoy of 30 Tons cannot get in or out, and likewise the Packet Boats of the said Town of Dover are liable to the same Misfortune for two or three Days together; so, consequently, can be of no Benefit to Shipping in Distress or bad Weather, on that Coast; for when Shipping want a Port in Distress, it is only when the Winds blow hard from the Sea, and the Coast is a Lee-shore: All Persons that are vers'd in Sea Affairs must allow, Ships are not in Distress for a Harbour when the Wind blows from the Shore.

III. The Charges on our Navigation, which are call'd *petty Port-Charges*, being also very considerable, is no little Discouragement to the same; a Ship of 250 Tons paying each Voyage 30*l.* Sterling; and every Ship of that Burthen pays at least 6*l.* 5*s.* once a Year towards the Repair of the said Peer or Harbour, although she cannot receive any Benefit thereby in Stress of Weather. The Mouth of the Peer is but 100 Feet broad, and the Channel much narrower, occasion'd by a Lodgment of Stones, and at the Peer-Head the Tide runs strong, directly a cross it, which makes it not only difficult, but dangerous to get in or out, several Ships having been lost in attempting to do so.

IV. By Virtue of the said Act of Parliament for raising and continuing the Duty on Goods and Shipping for the Repair of the said Harbour, upwards of 20000*l.* hath been rais'd; yet upon enquiring into the Condition of the said Harbour, we do not find it better for the Reception of Ships than it was before the laying on of the said Duty, neither is it, or can it be made of any Advantage to any, but the Fisher-Boats and small Ships or Vessels using the said Place.

V. This Peer and Harbour of Dover was formerly kept in as good Repair, by the Rents and Revenues of the said Town, as it is now; and then it was as capable to receive Ships or Vessels as at this Time, after raising the large Sums before-mention'd. There is Ramsgate, on the same Coast, has a Peer of their own, and maintain it at their own Charge, which is as useful to Navigation as Dover. Besides, we do not find any Peers or Harbours, besides this of Dover, have any Customs or Duties out of the Trade or Shipping, but only on such Ships or Vessels as use the said Peers or Harbours, or deliver at the said Ports, (except Burlington and Whitbey in the County of York, and they have one Farthing per Chaldron out of the Coals only laden in and about Newcastle, which said Peers or Harbours are of great Safety to the Coal Trade.)

And as the Matters here set forth are true, and the Monies rais'd for the Purposes aforesaid, are look'd upon as an Hardship upon the Persons who pay the same, and that the laying out the said Money upon the Harbour of Dover, is of no more Use than to employ the Inhabitants of the said Town, they humbly hope your Lordships will not continue a Tax upon the Trade of this Nation, for these Purposes any longer.

The Counsel for the Petitioners against the Bill having done pleading, the Lords read the Bill a second Time, and committed it for the Friday following.

The next Day the Lords heard Counsel against another Bill, entitled, *An Act against the clandestine Running of uncustomed and prohibited Goods, &c.* and the chief Reasons that were offer'd against the same, were deliver'd to their Lordships in Print as follows:

UNDER Colour of preventing the Running of Brandy in small Vessels of 15 Tons, which usually are plying, or (as it is term'd) hovering along the Coast for that Purpose, this Bill gives Power for searching all Ships whatever, standing off and on in the open Sea, and seizing them; which may bring us into Quarrels with all sea-faring Nations about us, and make us liable to the same Usage from them.

The Word hovering is an ambiguous Term; forasmuch as a Ship which endeavours to get quick to Market with a contrary Wind, plies off to Sea, and then stands in for Shore, and may not gain three Leagues in her Way in four Days; this may be deem'd hovering, and on this Pretence the Ship may be detain'd under Colour of Searching, and may lose her Market.

This Bill allows to a Sailor but one Gallon of Brandy, or Spirits for each Man, and nothing for any Passenger, of whatsoever Quality, whereas outwards, as well as homewards, they drink near one Pint a Day a Man, for their Voyage one with another: And if a Ship from the East or West-Indies, or Turkey, put into Falmouth, all Rum or Spirits must be gag'd, and for all that is spent above one Gallon, they must pay Excise or Custom; although by all Acts no Excise or Custom is payable, but for Goods put on Shore.

This Bill gives Liberty to go on Board, and take an Account of all Rum or Spirits, and charge the Master with the same, although it may be half drank out, or leak'd out, before the Ship comes into the Port of London, being detain'd by contrary Winds, and the Ship stopt from going to Sea again, unless the Master or Owner pay the Custom and Excise for such Leakage or Expence.

This is a very hard Case on all our West-India Navigation, which are victuall'd with Rum instead of Beer; and the Men think it very cruel to be deny'd a Bottle of Rum to drink with their Families at coming Home.

A Ship may lie in the Out-Ports 2 or 3 Months before she gets to London, especially in War Time, for want of Convoy, and fair Wind; and after her coming to London, often may be two Months and longer, in unloading and delivering; during all which Time the Men are spending their Liquors.

This Bill only extends to Merchant-Ships, and not to Yachts, Men of War, and other Vessels in his Majesty's Service, which is very unequal.

By this Bill, Justices of the Peace have a Power to judge and determine Penalties, as far as 50*l*. which never was in any Act before exceeding 5*l*.

This Bill gives Leave to search all Coaches and Chaises whatever, by Day or Night, under the Denomination of any Carriage or Conveyance, without a Peace Officer; and under that Pretence many Robberies may be easily committed.

And under the Name of Packs, any Cloak-Bag, or Portmanteau, of any Nobleman's or Gentleman's Servant, though following his Master, is liable to be stopp'd, search'd, or examin'd, by any Custom house or Excise Officer, or pretending to be so, by Night or Day, without a Peace Officer.

It gives Leave for any Excise or Custom-house Officer to come to any Shopkeeper, to seize his Goods, and make him prove the Custom, or Excise paid, on Forfeiture thereof, whereas by the Laws in being, a Man's Shop is his free Market.

All Ships bound to Russia, Turkey, Spain, or Italy, or the East or West-Indies, may be stopp'd or unloaded on Pretence of Information, and lose their Voyage; and all the Merchants concern'd may suffer Damage: And if a Ship bound for Naples or Sicily, against the Fair-Time should be stopp'd, all concern'd in those Goods will be great Sufferers, so must buy their License at any Rate.

There is no Penalty on the Officers if this be done by him out of Malice or other sinister Ends.

The Powers given to Commissioners of Customs and Excise, and their Officers, are much greater than ever.

As the Bill stands, any Person concern'd in running Goods, is allow'd to be a good Witness, and entitled to a Reward of 5*s*. per Gallon, which is a great Encouragement to Perjury; forasmuch as those who steal the King's Dues, will not stick to forswear themselves.

By this Bill our finest English-made Spirits are subject to Forfeiture, and so, all the Penalties of this Bill, if sold under the Name of French Brandy; whereas all wise Nations give the greatest Encouragement to such of their Subjects as can rival, or imitate, any foreign Manufactures, to such a Degree as the Difference cannot be known; and many useful Manufactures have been gain'd to this Nation by that Means.

The 1*st* Ton Vessels and under, do the great Mischief; but by this Bill, without Distinction, all the Shipping in

England

England will at once be put under these intolerable Powers, which, though never so ill, or so unjustly exercis'd, the Party oppress'd can have no Satisfaction.

These Reasons had so much Weight, that most of the Lords were thereby inclin'd to let the Bill drop.

The Commons met again on the 14th of March, and after some Time spent in considering the Amendment made by the Lords to the Felons Bill, they adjourn'd 'till the 17th.

The same Day (March 14) the Lords, in a Grand Committee, took into Consideration the Bill from the Commons, entitled, *An Act for the better explaining several Acts, for erecting of Hospitals and Work-Houses within the City of Bristol*; and after they had heard Counsel for the Petitioners against the Bill, their Lordships examin'd the said Bill Paragraph by Paragraph, and went through it with some Amendments; notwithstanding the great Opposition that was made by the Lord Bishop of Bristol, and in particular, to the Clause for repealing the Clause of the Act 12 Anna, mention'd above, page 135. March 15, the Lords, in a Grand Committee, went through the Bill for the Repair of Dover Harbour; and read the third Time, and, with the Amendments, agreed to the Bill for the better explaining several Acts, for erecting of Hospitals and Work-Houses within the City of Bristol. Hereupon several Lords enter'd the following Protest against the said Bill:.

Dissentient.

I. **B**Ecause the comprehensive Latitude of this Bill is such, that all Persons, without Discrimination, whether well or ill affected to our Constitution in Church or State, Papists as well as Protestants, Nonjurors as well as those who take the Oaths, Jews as well as Christians, are alike capable of being admitted into the Corporation to which this Bill refers, and of sharing all the Trusts and Powers lodg'd in the Members thereof.

II. Because this Bill, whilst it complains of the Difficulty of finding a sufficient Number of proper and well qualify'd Persons to be elected and constituted Guardians and Officers of the said Corporation, and, to avoid that Difficulty, lets in Dissenters, doth, at the same Time, shut out the Church-Wardens, who, by a former Act, were incorporated therein, and who, by our Constitution, be e

the Care of the Poor, in a special Manner, intrusted with them.

III. Because this Bill repeals a Law, by which Dissenters were excluded from Places and Offices in this Corporation; and this Repeal may, hereafter, be made Use of as a Precedent for abrogating other Laws as yet in Force, in order to their Admission into all Places and Offices whatsoever.

IV. Because this Bill by exempting the Guardians and Officers therein mention'd from the Penalties and Forfeitures of the Corporation and Test-Acts, doth, in our Opinion, very much weaken the Force of those Acts, which are declar'd by that Clause in the Act of Union, which enacts, That the Act for Ministers of the Church of England to be of sound Principles, and the Act for Uniformity, and all and singular other Acts of Parliament then in Force, for the Establishment and Preservation of the Church of England, shall remain, and be in full Force for ever.

Geo. Bristol. Mansel, Compton, Boyle, Hay, Balthurst, Oxford, Strafford, Weston, Jonat. Wint. Fr. Roffen.

March 17. The Lords agreed to the Bill for the Repair of Dover Harbour without any Amendments; and then, in a Grand Committee, went through the Malt and the Army Bills, without any Amendments likewise.

The same Day the Commons being met again, Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, That (pursuant to their Order of the 10th Instant) he did, on Saturday last, signify in Writing to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, the Resolutions of the House, to redeem the Annuity for circulating and exchanging Exchequer Bills: After this Mr. ~~Scawen~~ acquainted the House, That he had a Message to this House sign'd by his Majesty: Which he presented to the House, and it was read by Mr. Speaker as follows, viz.

GEORGE R.

HIS Majesty being at present engag'd in several Negotiations of the utmost Concern to the Welfare of these Kingdoms, and the Tranquility of Europe; and having lately receiv'd Information from Abroad, which makes

him judge that it will give Weight to his Endeavours, if a naval Force be employ'd where it shall be necessary, does think fit to acquaint this House therewith; not doubting but that in case he should be oblig'd, at this critical Juncture, to exceed the Number of Men granted this Year for the Sea-Service, the House will, at their next Meeting, provide for such Exceeding.

Upon this Sir William Strickland mov'd, ' That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the Thanks of this House, for his unwearied Endeavours to promote the Welfare of his Kingdoms, and to preserve the Tranquillity of Europe; and to assure his Majesty, That this House will make good such Exceedings of Men for the Sea-Service of the Year 1718, as his Majesty in his Royal Wisdom shall find necessary to obtain those desirable Ends.' This Motion being seconded, and no Body opposing it, the Question was put thereupon, and carry'd without dividing. 'Tis however remarkable, that the Spanish Embassador having, about this Time, expostulated concerning the great Preparations for sending a Fleet into the Mediterranean, Mr. Walpole said, ' That such an Address had all the Air of a Declaration of War against Spain.

This unanimous Resolution of the Commons was very acceptable to the Court, and the next Day Mr. Boscawen acquainted the House, That their Address had been presented to his Majesty; and that he was commanded by his Majesty, to return his Majesty's hearty Thanks to this House; and to assure them, that his Majesty shall think himself oblig'd, in return of the great Confidence they have repos'd in him, not only to use the utmost OEconomy that shall be consistent with the real Interest of his Subjects for this ensuing Year; but likewise to apply his most earnest Endeavour to prevent future Burthens to his People, by establishing a lasting Peace and Tranquillity. After this Sir William Thompson reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be offer'd to the Lords at a Conference, for disagreeing to some of the Amendments made by their Lordships to the Bill for the Transportation of Felons, that they had drawn up Reasons accordingly; which, one excepted, being agreed to, were the same Day deliver'd to the Lords at a Conference.

March

March 19. The Lords sent a Message to the Commons, desiring a Conference that Day at two a Clock in the Painted Chamber, upon the Subject Matter of the last Conference; which being agreed to, the Lords insisted upon their Amendments to the *Bill for the Transportation of Felons*, which the Commons had disagreed to, for which their Lordships gave their Reasons. Sir *William Thompson*, who was at the Head of the Managers for the Commons, having reported the said Reasons to the House, it was resolv'd, That this House does insist upon their Disagreement with the Lords to the said Amendments; and that a free Conference be desir'd with the Lords upon the Subject Matter of the last Conference. The Lords readily agreed to the said free Conference, and appointed the same to be the next Day at two a Clock, in the Painted Chamber; when the Managers for the Commons having acquainted the Lords, that the Commons insisted on their disagreeing with their Lordships in the said Amendments, their Lordships upon the Report of their Managers, did not think fit to insist on those Amendments.

March 21. The King went to the House of Peers, and the Commons being sent for up and attending, his Majesty was pleas'd to give the Royal Assent to the several Bills following, viz.

An Act for continuing the Duties on Malt, Mum, Cyder, and Perry, for the Service of the Year 1718; and for making forth Duplicates of Exchequer-Bills, Lottery-Tickets, and Orders lost, burnt, or destroy'd; and for appropriating the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament.

An Act for vesting the forfeited Estates in Great Britain and Ireland in Trustees, to be sold for the Use of the Publick; and for giving Relief to lawful Creditors, by determining the Claims; and for the more effectual bringing into the respective Exchequers the Rents and Profits of the said Estates till sold.

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

An Act for making the Dividend of subscrib'd Lottery Annuities, and other Annuities establish'd by several Acts of Parliament, payable Half-yearly at the Bank of England.

An Act to appoint Commissioners to take, 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.

An Act for finishing the Tower of the Parish-Church of St. Michael Cornhill, London, out of the Duties arising pursuant to the Act of the 9th Year of the late Queen, for building fifty new Churches in and about the Cities of London and Westminster, and the Suburbs thereof.

An Act to empower the Commissioners appointed to put in Execution the Acts of the 9th and 10th Years of her late Majesty's Reign, for building fifty new Churches in and about the Cities of London and Westminster, and Suburbs thereof, to direct the Parish Church of St. Gyles's in the Fields, in the County of Middlesex, to be rebuilt instead of one of the said fifty new Churches.

An Act for the farther preventing Robbery, Burglary, and other Felonies, and for the more effectual Transportation of Felons, and unlawful Exporters of Wool; and for declaring the Law upon some Points relating to Pyrates.

An Act for enforcing and making perpetual an Act of the 12th Year of her late Majesty, entitled, An Act for the preserving of all such Ships, and Goods thereof, which shall happen to be forc'd on Shore, or stranded upon the Coasts of this Kingdom, or any other of her Majesty's Dominions; and for inflicting the Punishment of Death on such as shall wilfully burn or destroy Ships.

An Act for the Relief of Wholesale Traders and Dealers in English Bone-Lace, by obviating several Doubts in the several Acts for licensing Hawkers and Pedlars.

An Act for making more effectual an Act made in the 8th Year of the Reign of the late Queen Anne, entitled, An Act for employing the Manufactures, by encouraging the Consumption of Raw-Silk and Mohair-Yarn.

An Act for enlarging the Term of Years granted by the Acts of the 11th and 12th Years of King William III, and 2d and 3d Years of Queen Anne, for the Repair of Dover Harbour.

*An Act for the better explaining several Acts therein mention'd, for erecting of Hospitals and Work-Houses within the City of Bristol, for the employing and main-
taining*

taining the Poor thereof, and for making the said Acts more effectual.

An Act for amending the Roads from the City of London to the Town of East-Grinstead in the County of Suffex, and to the Towns of Sutton and Kingston in the County of Surrey.

An Act for repairing the Highway leading from the Stones-end of Kent-Street in the Parish of St. Georges's Southwark, in the County of Surrey, to the Lime-Kilns in East-Greenwich near Black-Heath, and to Lewisham Church, being the Tunbridge Road, in the County of Kent.

An Act for repairing the Highways from Maiden-head Bridge to Sunning-Lane-End (next to Twiford) in the Road to Reading, and from the said Bridge to Henly-Bridge in the County of Bucks.

An Act for repairing the Highways from Crown-Corner in the Town of Reading, (leading by and through the several Parishes of Shinfield and Heckfield, in the several Counties of Berks, Wilts, and Southampton) to Basingstoke in the said County of Southampton.

And to eighteen private Acts.

After which his Majesty was pleas'd to say.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Have commanded my Lord Chancellor to deliver, in my Name and Words, what I think fit should be said to you, on my putting an End to this Session of Parliament.

And thereupon his Lordship receiv'd from his Majesty's Hands from the Throne, his Majesty's Speech to both Houses of Parliament; which he read as follows, viz.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Cannot put an End to this Session, without returning my hearty Thanks to so good a Parliament, for the Dispatch which has been given to the publick Business. You will, I hope, in your private Capacities, feel the Convenience of an early Recess; and I am perswaded the Publick will receive great Benefit by the seasonable Zeal and Vigour

‘gour of your Resolutions in Support of my Govern-
‘ment

‘Nothing can add so much to the Credit and In-
‘fluence of this Crown, both at Home and Abroad,
‘as the repeated Instances of your Affection to me.
‘This Steadiness and Resolution of yours, will, I
‘hope, enable me to procure, against your next Meet-
‘ing, such Treaties to be concluded, as will settle
‘Peace and Tranquillity among our Neighbours.

‘If through the Blessing of God my Endeavours
‘to this End prove successful, I shall have the Satis-
‘faction to silence even those who will never own
‘themselves convinc’d; and to let all the World
‘see plainly, that what I have most at Heart, is the
‘Good and Welfare of my People, who may then
‘be eas’d in their Taxes, and enrich’d by their
‘Trade.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

‘I must return you my particular Thanks for the
‘Supplies you have so cheerfully granted, and for the
‘late Instance of your Confidence in me. I promise
‘you, that my Endeavours shall not be wanting to
‘make Use of both to the best Advantage for the
‘Good of my People.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

‘The Practices which are daily us’d by a most rest-
‘less and unhappy Set of Men, to disturb a Govern-
‘ment by whose Clemency they are protected, re-
‘quire our utmost Attention and Vigilance. I must
‘therefore recommend it to you, that in your several
‘Stations and Countries, you will endeavour to quell
‘that Spirit of Disaffection, which our common Ene-
‘mies are so industrious to foment.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty’s Com-
mand, prorogu’d the Parliament to the 20th of
May.

About the Middle of February the Government re-
ceiv’d and soon after publish’d the following Account,
dated from *Gibraltar*, January 10.

Captain *Morley*, who went over lately with full
Powers from his Britannick Majesty, to renew a Treaty
of Peace with the Emperor of *Morocco*, who re-
ceiv’d him with great Marks of Honour at *Tetuan*, by
the

the Basshaw whom that Emperor has constituted his Plenipotentiary for the same Purpose. They have already agreed upon a Truce for three Months, which there is good Reason to believe, will prove a Means to hasten the Peace, by preventing any Accident that might obstruct or retard it. The Articles of the Truce are as follows :

I. **I**T is consented and agreed upon, that there be a firm and inviolable Truce between the most serene and potent Prince *George*, King of *Great Britain*, &c. and the most powerful and noble Prince *Muley Ismael*, &c. for three Months from the Date hereof; and between the Dominions and Subjects, Ships and Imbarkations of both Nations; and during the said Term, no Injury shall be offer'd from one to the other by Word or Deed; but, on the contrary, they shall treat one the other with all possible Respect and Friendship.

II. That all the Ships, or any Imbarkation whatsoever, as well those which belong to his *Britannick* Majesty and his Subjects, as those which belong to the Emperor of *Morocco* and his Vassals, shall pass the Seas freely, and without the least Molestation, shewing their Colours to each other. And if either one or the other shall order their Boat Aboard, there shall not go in her above two Persons besides those that row, and those two only shall be permitted to go on Board the other Ship: And when they are satisfy'd that the major Part of the Ship's Company are Subjects either of one or the other Prince, they shall permit them to pass without any Molestation, as also all Passengers, Money, or Merchandize, that shall belong to any Nation whatsoever, and shall be found on board the said Ships or Imbarkations, shall be entirely free; neither shall they be subject to be taken, detain'd, or plunder'd; nor shall one or the other receive any Damage or Injury.

III. It is farther agreed upon, That during the Term of the said Truce, no Ship or Imbarkation either of the one or the other Part, or any of their Subjects that shall be shipwreck'd on the Coast of the Dominions of either the one or the other Prince, shall be made Prize, neither shall their Goods be taken, or Persons made Slaves. But this Truce does not take off the Prohibition of Commerce; but the same is to remain

main in full Force to the Conclusion of the general Peace. Concluded at *Tetuan*, on the 2d of *January* 1718, O. S. which answers to the 10th of the Moon of *Safar*, in the Year 1130.

Coningsby Norbury, (L. S.)
Bashaw, Hamed, &c. (L. S.)

On the 28 of February the *Marquess de Paleotti*, Brother to the *Dutchess of Shrewsbury*, was try'd at the Old Baily, for the Murder of his Servant. His Tryal having made a great deal of Noise, shall be inserted here at large as follows:

F*erdinando Paleotti*, Esq; alias *Ferdinando Marquess de Paleotti*, was indicted for the Murder of *John Niccolo*, alias *John the Italian*, the 11th Day of February last; he was indicted likewise for Manslaughter upon the Coroner's Inquest, and also on the Statute of Stabbing. After the Counsel for the King had open'd the Cause, the Evidences gave the Accounts following.

John Johnson depos'd, That he having been out, was come Home, and knocking at his Master's (*Mr. Bellasis*) Door in *Lisle-street*, between 9 and 10 a Clock at Night, he saw the Marquess and the deceas'd pass by, and heard *Niccolo* say, *Tous les Jours*; and having pass'd him while he stood knocking, he perceiv'd the Prisoner pursue the deceas'd with something in his Hand held up, and heard the Servant in a violent Manner cry out, *Garde, Garde, Garde*, near ten Times, and then took hold of a Post; and the Prisoner walk'd by with something under his Arm; but whether Stick or Sword he could not say positively; but did believe it to be a Sword; and the Marquess being gone past him, *Niccolo* never spoke more, but fell to the Ground, and then the Marquess took to his Heels and made up *Gerrard-street*; upon which he and *Thomas Corbridge*, who came upon the Out-cry, examin'd the Street, and were positive that there were no Persons in the Street at that Time, but the Marquess and *Niccolo*, and himself knocking at his Master's Door; and that there being some Lights reflecting, and himself being in the Dark, he had so perfect a View of the Marquess's Face, that he was sure he was the very same Person, and swore positively to it.

it. He added likewise, that as well as he could then distinguish, he had on a red Coat.

The Prisoner pretending he could not speak or understand *English*, had an Interpreter allow'd him, who being sworn, told the Marquess in *French* what the Evidence said in *English*; and the Court bid him ask the Marquess, if he would ask the Witnesses any Questions? whereupon he ask'd him, what colour'd Cloaths he had on? who said to the best of his Judgment, Scarlet. To which he reply'd very angrily, that whatsoever he had depos'd was all Lies; for he had no Red Coat on that Day, and that he would anon disprove all he had said.

The next Evidence was *Thomas Corbridge*, who depos'd, That as he was knocking at a Door in *Leicester-street* he heard an Outcry, which he took to be Murder; and running to *Lisle-street*, he saw a Person of the same Stature with the Prisoner pass by him; but he could not swear to his Face, but by his Stature and Make of his Body (which was pretty remarkable, he being a tall Man) he did verily believe it was the Marquess; that seeing the Man dead, they look'd and saw no Body in the Street at that Time, but the Marquess, the deceased, and themselves.

Margaret Clay depos'd, That she being at a Window that look'd into *Lisle-street*, saw a Gentleman and his Servant pass along, and immediately heard the Footman cry out violently, and instantly the Footman fell down dead near Mr. *Bellasis's* Door.

John Rucks depos'd, That as he was at his Master's (Mr. *Elwys's*) House in *Lisle-street*, he heard a Noise and Outcry in the Street, and running up Stairs, heard a Man groan at Mr. *Bellasis's* Door, and saw a tall Man pass by him, and no other Person in the Street; and that by his Shape and Stature he did verily believe it was the Prisoner the Marquess; and that when he pass'd by, *Niccolo* was fallen on the Grounds.

Benjamin Forster depos'd, That he hearing the Outcry as he was at Home in *Lisle-street*, ran out, and that then there was no Body to be seen in the Street; but a Gentleman that came down the Street keeping the Coach-way, and that he had either a Sword or Stick under his left Arm, and his right Hand upon it; and that he was in red Cloaths; and that as he pass'd along hastily, he turn'd back several Times, looking

behind him, as it were to see if any Body follow'd him, and turn'd up *Gerrard-street*, that by his Stature and Shape he verily believ'd the Marquess to be the Person; that then stepping to the deceas'd, he and another found him dead, and open'd him to find his Wounds, and examining his Pockets they found some Papers, by which they discover'd he belong'd to the Marquess *de Paleotti*; and that the deceas'd had in his Pocket one Shilling and one Penny.

William Spicer depos'd, That he living at *St. James's*, kept a Surler's House, and that the Marquess had, for some Time, been his Lodger, and that he was always wont to come Home pretty late, and have a Supper, and much Attendance, and his Room illuminated, and a Fire in it; but that Night he did not see him come in; but was told by the Maid, who went up Stairs between 10 and 11 a Clock, that the Marquess was in Bed, though none in the House knew he was at Home.

Elizabeth Newman confirm'd what her Master had said; adding, that the going through the Marquess's Room to put her Master's Grandchild to Bed, she not thinking the Marquess to be there, he put back the Curtains and ask'd for his Man *Niccolo*; to which she answer'd, he was not come Home; and that he reply'd that he was, for he had put him to Bed, and told her several Times, that he was asleep in some Chair in the Room. She added, that neither she, nor any of the Family knew he was come in; and that he got into Bed without the Bed being made, without any Candle, or any Fire that could give any Light.

Mr. Spicer added, That the next Morning the Marquess got out of Bed, and knocking, he went; and when he came, the Marquess ask'd him for his Man *Niccolo*, to which he reply'd he did not come in that Night. And that just about that Time, one *Mr. Behn* came and told the Marquess, that *Niccolo* was found murder'd; upon which, in a Sort of a Hurry of Mind, he went to dress him, and call'd for his grey Clothes, which he fetch'd him, and then he dress'd himself and went out: And as it appear'd, went to the Bishop of *Salisbury's* (very probably thinking to find Sanctuary in the Bishop's House, as in a Church or Cloyster in Popish Countries: where, it seems, he behav'd himself so rudely; making a Sort of a Riot, that his Sword was taken from him, and sent to Justice

Justice Gore's; which Sword was produc'd in Court by *John Martin* the Constable, who had receiv'd it of Justice Gore.

John Wilkinson depos'd, That he had liv'd four Months with the Marquess as his Interpreter, that the Marquess that Day went out in the Forenoon with *Niccolo*, and that he had on scarlet Clothes turn'd up with blue, and that Sword which was produc'd in Court; and said, that he had not had, while he was with him, any other Sword but that,

Mr. Duhammel depos'd, That after the apprehending of the Marquess *de Puleotti*, he discoursing with him in the Guard-Chamber, he told him, That on the 11th of *February*, his Servant *John Niccolo* was with him on the other Side of the Water, and that they returning in the Afternoon, he went to see a Lady and supp'd with her, and his Man *Niccolo* waited on them at Supper, and that he went to wait on the Lady Home, and she would go through a dark Alley, and he would not go with her; that *Niccolo* went with him almost Home, and that then he lost him, and that he went into his Lodging, and went to Bed by ten of the Clock. *Mr. Duhammel* said, upon this he told the Marquess, that the Account he had given his Landlord, &c. which differ'd from what he then said, would be made use of in Court against him: Upon which the Marquess chaf'd, and in a haughty Air reply'd, what, did he suffer himself to be interrogated by such a one as he? And fell to kicking of him.

John Stephens, the Surgeon, depos'd, That being sent for to view the deceas'd, he found the Wound was seven Inches deep, and a quarter of an Inch broad; that it penetrated into the left Lobe of his Lungs, and into the Heart, and was satisfy'd it was the Cause of his Death; and that the Wound was not given with a hollow Blade, but with such a Sword as was produc'd in Court, and sworn to be the Prisoner's.

The Marquess, when he came to make his Defence, having an Interpreter allow'd him, (who was sworn for that Purpose) pleaded total Innocence as to the Murder of *John Niccolo*, saying, he had no Ill-will against him, nor had any Cause; and if he had, he had another Way of punishing him, which was by Martial Law, he being his Servant, and a Soldier of his own Troop. He then own'd, they did go out together

together in the Morning; that they went to the other Side of the Water, and coming back in the Evening, went to a Tavern near *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, and suppd about 8 of the Clock; that they went away together, *Niccolo* went along with him as far as Home, and ask'd him at the Door, to let him step somewhere and he would return presently, so he went to Bed without *Niccolo's* putting him to Bed, and never saw him since. And then being ask'd, why he told the Maid that *Niccolo* put him to Bed? He deny'd he ever said so. Being ask'd by the Court, how he came to go so suddenly to Bed without Attendance, Light, Fire, or his Bed made? He answer'd there was a Fire that gave him Light, and that the Bed was made: Though the Maid being examin'd again as to that Matter, the swore the Bed was not made, nor was there any Fire that gave any Manner of Light; but at last he grew unsatisfy'd with his Interpreter, affronting him so that he frequently desir'd the Court to excuse him from the Office, saying, That he did not like him, because he did not make an Appearance great enough for him: But the Court being very well satisfy'd with his Capacity for the Office, thought it needless so to do; 'till at last, by the unhandsome Carriage of the Prisoner, and the frequent Request of the Gentleman whom they had appointed to be his Interpreter, they did condescend to gratify them both, and prevail'd with a worthy Justice of the Peace to humour the Marquess so far as to be his Interpreter, with whom he seem'd to be a little better pleas'd, and made the Defence following. That had he not been innocent of the Murder of *Niccolo*, he would not have staid to be taken, for that his Sister, the Dutchess of *Shrewsbury*, had sent him 50 Guineas and some Jewels to have made his Escape; and added, That when he and his Man came from the other Side of the Water, they went to the Tavern in *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, and that there he sent out for some Gentlemen, and that he went along with them in a Coach, and being about half Way, his Man *Niccolo* desir'd him to let him go somewhere, and he gave him Leave, and he never saw him since. And some other Questions being put to him by the Court, he said, he did not know what became of his Man, for the People of the Tavern in *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields* well knew, that his Man *Niccolo* was enquir'd for there, and went away, and they knew better what became of

of him than he did. And thus he contradicted himself three or four several Times. At last he would have had his Tryal put off, saying, he had not had Time enough to produce Evidences; but was answer'd by the Court, he had sufficient Notice, having been committed fourteen Days, and that he himself had desir'd the Court, by Mr. Lorrain, that his Tryal might be brought on at that Time. Upon the whole, his Defence being trifling and contradictory, the Jury considering the Matter, brought him in Guilty of wilful Murder, the Coroners Inquest, and Statute of Stabbing. Accordingly he receiv'd Sentence of Death, and was hang'd at Tyburn on the 17th of March.

M O S C O W.

IN our last Register we gave an Account of the solemn Renunciation which the Czar of *Moscow* had oblig'd his eldest Son to make to the Succession to the Crown of *Russia*; and of the Oath which all his Ministers, Boyars, and other Great Men were compell'd to take in Favour of that Settlement: Which Renunciation and Oath are as follows.

‘ I The Underwritten promise upon the Holy Gospel,
 ‘ that as I am, through the Crime which I have
 ‘ committed against his Czarieth Majesty, my Lord and
 ‘ Father, excluded by my own Fault from the Succession
 ‘ to the Throne of *Russia*, as it is set forth in an
 ‘ Instrument for that Purpose; so I acknowledge and
 ‘ own that Exclusion to be just, having deserv'd the
 ‘ same by my Fault and Indignity; and I oblige my
 ‘ self, and swear before the Almighty God, as the
 ‘ sovereign Judge, to submit in every Thing to the
 ‘ Will of my Father, never to sue for his Succession,
 ‘ pretend or desire the same, nor to accept it upon any
 ‘ Pretence whatsoever: And I acknowledge my Brother
 ‘ the Czarowitz, *Peter Petrowitz*, for his lawful
 ‘ Successor. In Testimony whereof, I Kiss the Holy
 ‘ Cross, and subscribe these Presents, with my own
 ‘ Hand.

Alexis Petrowitz.

' I *A. B.* oblige my self, upon the holy Gospel, that
 ' whereas our most gracious Sovereign the Czar
 ' *Peter Alexowitz*, has caus'd circular Letters to be pub-
 ' lish'd throughout his Empire, to notify that he has
 ' thought fit to exclude his Son Prince *Alexis Pe-*
 ' *trowitz* from the Throne of *Russia*, and to appoint
 ' for his Successor to the Crown his second Son the
 ' Prince Royal *Peter Petrowitz*. I therefore swear be-
 ' fore the Almighty God, that I acknowledge this
 ' Order and Regulation made by his Majesty in Fa-
 ' vour of the said Prince *Peter Petrowitz*, to be just and
 ' lawful, and entirely conform and submit my self to
 ' the same, promising always to acknowledge the said
 ' Prince Royal *Peter Petrowitz* for his lawful Successor,
 ' and to stand by him on all Occasions, even to the Loss
 ' of my Life, against all such who shall presume to
 ' oppose the said Succession; and that I shall never
 ' upon any Pretence whatsoever, assist the Prince *A-*
 ' *lexis Petrowitz*, nor in any Manner whatsoever
 ' contribute to procure him the Succession. And this
 ' I solemnly promise by my Oath upon the Holy Gos-
 ' pel, kissing the Holy Cross thereupon.

Soon after the Czar caus'd the following Manifesto
 to be publish'd, declaring the Reasons that had induc'd
 him thus to exclude his Son from the Succession.

WE *Peter I.* by the Grace of God Czar and Auto-
 crator (or Emperor) of all *Russia*, &c. &c. &c.
 make known to all Persons, as well Ecclesiastical as
 Military and Civil, of all the Territories of the *Russian*
 Nation, our faithful Subjects.

It is notorious and well known to most of our faith-
 ful Subjects, especially those who live in the Places
 of our Residence, or are in our Service, how much
 Care and Application we have bestow'd upon the
 Education of our eldest Son *Alexis*, (or *Alexander*) ha-
 ving appointed him for that Purpose, from his In-
 fancy, Preceptors to instruct him in the *Russian* and
 foreign Languages, and in all Arts and Sciences, in
 order to bring him up not only in our Christian and
 Orthodox Faith of the *Greek* Confession; but also in
 the Knowledge of political and military Affairs, and
 likewise of the Constitutions of foreign Countries, their
 Customs and Languages; that by the reading of Hi-
 stories,

stories and Books in all Faculties, becoming a Prince of his high Rank, he might acquire the Qualifications worthy of a Successor to our Throne of *Great Russia*.

Nevertheless we have seen with Grief, that all our Care and Attention for the Education and Instruction of our Son, have prov'd ineffectual, seeing he hath always swerv'd from his filial Obedience, shewing no Inclination for what was becoming a worthy Successor, and slighting the Precepts of the Masters we had given him; but, on the contrary, frequenting disorderly Persons, of whom he could learn nothing good, or that could be advantageous and useful to him.

We have not neglected to endeavour often to reclaim him and bring him back to his Duty, sometimes by Careses and gentle Means, sometimes by Reprimands, and sometimes by paternal Corrections.

We have more than once taken him along with us into the Field, to cause him to be instructed in the Art of War, as one of the chiefest Sciences for the Defence of his Country, always taking Care to keep him remote from Danger, and preserving his Person out of Regard to the Succession, tho' we expos'd our own Person upon all Occasions.

We have at other Times left him at *Moscow*, putting into his Hands a Sort of Regency in the Empire, in order to form him in the Art of Government, and that he might learn how to reign after us.

We have afterwards sent him into foreign Countries, in Expectation that seeing in his Travels Governments so well regulated, this would excite in him some Emulation, and an Inclination to apply himself to do well.

But all our Care hath been fruitless, and, like the Seed in the Gospel, fallen upon a Rock.

For he hath not only refus'd to follow what is good, but is even come to hate it, without ever shewing the least Inclination either for military or political Affairs: He only and continually convers'd with base and disorderly Persons, whose Morals were rude and abominable.

As we were resolv'd to endeavour by all imaginable Means to reclaim him from that disorderly Course, and inspire him with an Inclination to converse with Persons of Virtue and Honour, we exhorted him to chuse a Consort among the Princesses of the chief

foreign Houses, as is usual in other Countries, and hath been practis'd by our Ancestors, the Czars of *Russia*, who have contracted Alliances by Marriage with other Sovereign Houses; and we left him at full Liberty to make a Choice.

He declar'd himself for the Princess, Grand-Daughter to the Duke of *Wolfembutzel* then reigning, Sister-in-Law to his Majesty the Emperor of the *Romans* now reigning, and Cousin to the King of *England*; and having desir'd us to procure him that Alliance, and to permit him to marry that Princess, we readily consented thereto, without any Regard to the great Expence which was necessarily occasion'd by that Marriage. But after its Consummation, we found ourself disappointed of the Hopes we had, that the Change of our Son's Condition would produce good Fruit, and a Change in his evil Habits; but found quite the Reverse of what we expected.

For notwithstanding his Consort was, as far as we could observe, a prudent, sprightly Princess, and of a virtuous Conduct, and that he had himself made that Choice, he yet liv'd with her in the greatest Disunion, while he redoubled his Affection for lewd People, bringing thereby a Disgrace upon our House before the foreign Princes to whom that Princess was related, which drew upon us many Complaints and Reproaches.

As frequent as our Advices and Exhortations were to reclaim him, nothing would do it.

On the contrary, violating at last the conjugal Faith, he gave all his Affection to a Prostitute of the most servile and low Condition, living publickly in that Crime with her, to the great Contempt of his lawful Consort, who soon after dy'd; of Sickness indeed, but it was believ'd that her Grief, occasion'd by the disorderly Life of her Husband, hasten'd the End of her Days.

When we saw his Resolution to persevere in his vicious Course, we declar'd to him at the Funeral of his Consort, that if he did not for the future conform himself to our Will, and apply himself to Things becoming a Prince Presumptive Heir to so great an Empire, we would deprive him of the Succession, without any Regard to his being our only Son; (our second Son was not then born) and that he ought not to rely upon his being so, because we would rather

ther chuse for our Successor a Stranger worthy thereof, than an unworthy Son; that we could not leave our Empire to such a Successor, who would ruin and destroy what the Father hath, by God's Assistance, establish'd, and tarnish the Glory and Honour of the *Russian* Nation, for the acquiring of which we had sacrific'd our Ease and our Health, willingly exposing our own Life on several Occasions; besides, that the Fear of God's Judgments would not permit us to leave the Government of such vast Territories in the Hands of one, whose Insufficiency and Unworthiness we were not ignorant of.

In short, we exhorted him, in the most pressing Terms we could make Use of, to behave himself with Discretion, and gave him Time to repent and return to his Duty.

His Answer to these Remonstrances was, That he acknowledg'd himself guilty in all these Points; but alledging the Weakness of his Parts and Genius, which did not permit him to apply himself to the Sciences and other Functions recommended to him, he own'd himself incapable and unworthy of our Succession, desiring us to discharge him from the same.

Nevertheless, we continu'd to exhort him with a paternal Affection, and joining Menaces to our Exhortations, we forgot nothing to bring him back to the right Way; and the Operations of War having oblig'd us to repair to *Denmark*, we left him at *Petersburg*, to give him Time to return to his Duty, and mend his Ways.

And afterwards, upon the repeated Advices we receiv'd of the Continuation of his disorderly Life, we sent him Orders to come to us at *Copenhagen* to make the Campaign, that he might thereby the better form himself.

But forgetting the Fear and Commandments of God, who enjoins Obedience even to private Parents, and much more to those who are at the same Time Sovereigns, our paternal Cares had no other Return, than an unheard of Ingratitude; for, instead of coming to us, as he was order'd, he withdrew, taking along with him great Sums of Money, and his infamous Concubine, with whom he continu'd to live in a criminal Course. He put himself under the Protection of the Emperor, raising against us, his Father and his Lord, a World of Calumnies and false Reports,

as if we did persecute him, and intended, without Cause, to deprive him of our Succession; alledging moreover, that even his Life was not safe if he continu'd with us, and desiring the Emperor not only to give him Refuge in his Dominions, but also to protect him against us by Force of Arms.

Every one may judge what Shame and Dishonour this Conduct of our Son hath drawn upon us and our Empire, in the Face of the whole World. The like Instance is hardly to be found in History.

The Emperor, tho' inform'd of his Excesses, and how he had liv'd with his Consort, Sister-in Law to his Imperial Majesty, thought fit, however, upon his pressing Instances, to appoint a Place where he might reside; and he desir'd farther, that he might be so private there, that we might not come to the Knowledge of it.

Meanwhile, his long Stay having made us fear, out of a tender and fatherly Affection, that some Misfortune had befallen him, we sent Persons several Ways to endeavour to get Intelligence of him; and after a great deal of Trouble, we were at last inform'd by the Captain of our Guard, *Alexander Ruemanzoff*, that he was privately kept in an Imperial Fortrefs in *Tyrol*: Whereupon we wrote a Letter with our own Hand to the Emperor, to desire that he might be sent back to us. But notwithstanding the Emperor's acquainting him with our Demand, and exhorting him to return to us, and submit to our Will, as being his Father and Lord; yet he alledg'd, with a great many Calumnies against us, that he ought not to be deliver'd into our Hands, as if we had been his Enemy, and a Tyrant from whom he had nothing to expect but Death.

In short, he perswaded his Imperial Majesty, instead of sending him back at that Time to us, to remove him to some remote Place in his Dominions, namely to *Naples* in *Italy*, and keep him there secretly in the Castle, under a borrow'd Name.

Nevertheless we had Notice from our said Captain of the Place where he was, and thereupon dispatch'd to the Emperor our Privy-Counsellor *Peter Tolskoy*, and the Captain of our Guard *Ruemanzoff* aforesaid, with a most pressing Letter, representing how unjust it would be to detain our Son, contrary to all Laws, divine and humane; according to which private Pa-

rents, and with much more Reason those who are besides invested with a Sovereign Authority, as we are, have an unlimited Power over their Children, independently of any other Judge; and we set forth, on one Side, the just and affectionate Manner with which we had always us'd our Son, and on the other, his Disobedience; representing, in the Conclusion, the ill Consequences and Animosities the Refusal of delivering up our said Son to us might occasion, because we could not leave this Affair in that Condition. We order'd at the same Time those we sent with that Letter, to make verbal Representations even in more pressing Terms, and declare that we should be oblig'd to revenge, by all possible Means, such detaining of our Son.

We wrote likewise to him a Letter with our own Hand, to represent to him the Horror and Impiety of his Conduct, and the Enormity of the Crime he had committed against us, his Father, and how God threaten'd in his Laws to punish disobedient Children with eternal Death.

We threaten'd him as a Father with our Curse, and, as his Lord, to declare him a Traytor to his Country, unless he return'd and obey'd our Commands; and gave him Assurances, that if he did as we desir'd, and return'd, we would pardon his Crime.

Our Envoys, after many Solicitations, and the above-said Representation made by us in Writing, and by them by Word of Mouth, at last obtain'd Leave of the Emperor to go and speak to our Son, in order to dispose him to return Home.

The Imperial Ministers gave them, at the same Time, to understand, that our Son had inform'd the Emperor that we persecuted him, and that his Life was not safe with us, whereby he had mov'd the Emperor's Compassion, and induc'd him to take him into his Protection; but that the Emperor, taking now into his Consideration our true and solid Representations, he would give Orders to endeavour by all possible Means to dispose him to return to us, and would moreover declare to him, that he could not in Justice and Equity refuse to deliver him up to his Father, and fall out with us on that Account.

Our Envoys, upon their Arrival at *Naples*, having desir'd to deliver to him our Letter, written with our own Hands, sent us Word, that he did not only

ly refuse to admit them, but that the Emperor's Viceroy had found Means, by inviting him Home to his House, to present them to him afterwards, much against his Will.

He did then indeed receive our Letter, containing our paternal Exhortation, and threatening our Curse; but without shewing the least Inclination to return; alledging still a great many Falsities and Calumnies against us, as if, by Reason of several Dangers he had to apprehend from us, he could not nor would not return; and boasting that the Emperor had promis'd him not only to defend and protect him against us, but even to set him upon the Throne of *Russia* against our Will, by Force of Arms.

Our Envoys perceiving this evil Disposition, try'd all imaginable Ways to prevail with him to return: They intreated him, they expatiated by Turns upon the Graciousness of our Assurances towards him, and upon our Threats in case of Disobedience; and that we would even bring him away by Force of Arms: They declar'd to him, that the Emperor would not enter into a War with us upon his Account, and many other such like Representations did they make him.

But he paid no Regard to all this, neither shew'd any Inclination to return to us, till the Imperial Viceroy, convinc'd at last of his Obstinacy, told him in the Emperor's Name, that he ought to return, for that his Imperial Majesty could not by any Law keep him from us, nor during the present War with *Turky*, and also in *Italy* with the King of *Spain*, embroil himself with us upon his Account.

When he saw how the Case stood, fearing he should be deliver'd up to us whether he would or not, he at length resolv'd to return Home, and declar'd his Mind to our Envoys, and to the Imperial Viceroy.

He likewise wrote the same Thing to us, acknowledging himself to be a Criminal and blame-worthy. The Copy of which Letter is hereunto subjoin'd.

And in this Manner he is arriv'd here. And albeit now our Son, by so long a Course of criminal Disobedience against us, his Father and his Lord, for many Years, and particularly for the Dishonour he hath cast upon us in the Face of the World, by withdrawing himself, and raising Calumnies of us, as if we were

were an unnatural Father, and for opposing his Sovereign, hath deserv'd to be punish'd with Death.

Nevertheless our paternal Affection inclines us to have Mercy upon him; and we therefore pardon his Crimes, and exempt him from all Punishments of the same.

But considering his Unworthiness, and the Series of his irregular Conduct above describ'd, we cannot in Conscience leave to him, after us, the Succession to the Throne of *Russia*, foreseeing that by his vicious Courses he would entirely destroy the Glory of our Nation, and the Safety of our Dominions, which thro' God's Assistance we have acquir'd and establish'd by an incessant Application; for it is notorious, and known to every one, how much it hath cost us, and with what Efforts we have not only recover'd the Provinces which the Enemy had usurp'd from our Empire, but also conquer'd several considerable Towns and Countries, and with what Care we have caus'd our People to be instructed in all Sorts of military and civil Sciences, to the Glory and Advantage of the Nation and Empire.

Now, as we should pity our States and our faithful Subjects, if by such a Successor we should throw them back into a much worse Condition than ever they were yet:

So by the paternal Authority, in vertue of which, by the Laws of our Empire, even any of our Subjects may disinherit a Son, and give his Succession to such other of his Sons as he pleases;

And in Quality of Sovereign Prince, in Consideration of the Safety of our Dominions, we do deprive our said Son *Alexis*, for his Crimes and Unworthiness of the Succession after us, to our Throne of *Russia*, even tho' there should not remain a single Person of our Family after us.

And we do constitute and declare Successor to the said Throne after us, our second Son *Peter*, tho' yet very young, having no Successor that is older.

We lay upon our said Son *Alexis* our paternal Curse, if ever, at any Time, he pretends to, or reclaims the said Succession.

And we desire of our faithful Subjects, whether Ecclesiasticks or Seculars, of all Ranks and Conditions, and of the whole *Russian* Nation, that in Conformity to this Constitution and our Will they acknowledge

knowledge and consider our said Son *Peter*, appointed by us to succeed, as lawful Successor; and that agreeably to this our Constitution they confirm the Whole by Oath before the Holy Altar, upon the Holy Gospels, kissing the Cross.

And all those who shall ever, at any Time, oppose this our Will, and who from this Day forward shall dare to consider our Son *Alexis* as Successor, or to assist him for that Purpose, we declare them Traytors to us and their Country. And we have order'd that these Presents shall be every where publish'd and divulg'd, to the End no Person may pretend Ignorance. Done at Moscow, the third of February 1718. O. S. Sign'd with our Hand and seal'd with our Seal.

Copy of the Czarowitz's Letter above mention'd.

Most gracious Lord and Father,

I Receiv'd your Majesty's most gracious Letter by the Sieurs *Tolloy* and *Roumjankoff*, whereby, and also by what they told me, your most graciously assure me of Pardon for my going without Leave, in case I return. I thank you for it with Tears in my Eyes. I own I am unworthy of any Favour; and casting my self at your Feet, I implore your Clemency to pardon my Crimes, tho' I have deserv'd all kinds of Punishment. But I rely upon your gracious Assurances, and abandoning myself to your Will, I set out from *Naples* forthwith, to return to your Majesty at *S. Petersburg*, with those whom your Majesty sent.

Most humble and unworthy Servant, not worthy to be call'd a Son,

Naples the 4th of October 1717.

Alexis.

The Exclusion of this young Prince from the Throne, is such an Example of paternal Chastisement as can scarce be parallel'd in History: For tho' the Czarowitz may perhaps have been guilty of the Enormities with which the above Manifesto charges him so home; yet he might, in Time, as other great Princes have done before him, have repented of those youthful Sillies, and prov'd a worthy Successor of his inexorable

table Parent; but he now stands for ever excluded, since the *Greek Church*, as well as ours, allows of no Absolution from Oaths.

But this Severity of that Prince was not acceptable to all his Subjects, for he soon after discover'd a Conspiracy enter'd into by divers Persons of Note, not only to set aside the Settlement he had made of the Succession to his Crown, but likewise all his new Regulations for the Improvement of Arts and Sciences in his Dominions, and inflicted exemplary Punishment on those who were concern'd in it; particularly on the Patriarch of *Rostoff*, who was broken alive upon the Wheel, then beheaded, his Head set upon a Pole, and his Body burnt: The *Sieur Kikeney*, who formerly enjoy'd a good Share of his Czarill Majesty's Favour, who had promoted him to the Order of Knighthood of the *White Eagle*, was executed in the same Manner; as was likewise Major General *Gleboff*, after he had endur'd the most exquisite Torture to bring him to a Confession of the Particulars of this Design, of which some Papers found in his Custody were a material Evidence: The *Sieur Backlanoff*, one of the Czar's Pages, had his Tongue, his Nose, and his Ears cut off: Prince *Dalgorucky* was condemn'd to perpetual Banishment: the Princess *Galtzen* to Imprisonment for Life; and many of an inferior Rank were punish'd, some with Death, others with Banishment, corporal Punishments being inflict'd on the rest, according to the Degree of their Guilt.

To these Instances of the Czar's Severity we will add the following: It was about the Close of the last Year that he return'd from *Petersburg* to *Moscow*, from whence he had been ten Years absent; and was no sooner arriv'd at *Moscow*, than being inform'd of several Mismanagements in the Administration of the Government during his Absence, he set himself to inquire into the Conduct of his Ministers, and made a terrible Example on the Person of Prince *Welkonski*, a Major-General in his Forces, who having been appointed to inspect the Management of the Custom-House at *Archangel*, and the Conduct of the Officers employ'd there, was himself convicted of Exactions and Corruption in the Discharge of that Office, and condemn'd to be beheaded. But the Czar, upon the Intercession of his Friends having given him the Choice either to undergo that Punishment, or be shot

to Death, he chose the latter, and was accordingly executed by Soldiers of his own Regiment.

While the Czar was thus playing the Monarch, in his own Dominions, he receiv'd Advice that the *Persians* had made an Incurſion into the Kingdom of *Aſſracan*: A Country ſo remote from us, and ſo little frequented by Travellers, that it is difficult to know the true Motive of this Invaſion: But this being the third Hoſtility of this Sort that the *Persians* have made within the Space of a Year, it is likely that they begin to take Umbrage at the growing Power of the *Moscovites*, and would, if they were able, ſecure themſelves in Time againſt it: The Czar, they know, is an ambitious Prince, and deſirous to enlarge his Dominions on that Side: Beſides, having form'd a Project to ſettle a Trade between *Persia* and *Petersburgh*, he finds it neceſſary to make himſelf Maſter of the *Caspian* Sea, by ſeiſing ſome Place on the *Persian* Shore of it. This Project was at firſt laugh'd at by thoſe very Nations who are ſo nearly concern'd to prevent it. But when they ſaw a Navigation eſtabliſh'd from the *Caspian* to the *Baltick*, with a Tariff of the Charges of the Transportation of all Merchandizes from *Petersburg* to *Persia*, and from *Persia* to *Petersburgh*, without any Manner of Danger from Pirates or even of Storms, they grew ſurpriz'd at it, and began to be angry with the Prince who had brought it to paſs: And this is thought to be the Ground of the *Persians* Quarrel with the *Moscovites*.

But the Czar has another great Project in View, which is to open a Trade directly to *China*. His Dominions extend indeed to the very Borders of *China*; but there are ſo many deſart Places, and the Inhabitants in that long Tract of Country are for the moſt Part ſo unciviliz'd, that the Communication between *Moscow* and *Pekin* is very unſafe, as well as very tedious; Travellers being forc'd to follow the Courſe of the Rivers, which takes up about three Years Time, and they are continually in Danger of being plunder'd by the *Tartars*. To prevent theſe Inconveniencies, the Czar has order'd a large Road to be made through his Dominions to *China*, and forty Towns to be built at convenient Diſtances along that Road, as likewiſe a great Number of Forts, inſomuch that Paſſengers will lie every Night in a Town, or elſe at one of thoſe Forts, where there will be likewiſe good Accommodation.

dation for them, and the Garrisons are to be continually patrolling for the Security of Travellers. These new Towns are to be peopled by Draughts that are to be made of such of the Inhabitants of *Moscow*, and other large Cities, as may best be spar'd, and who are to have such Encouragement to take up with these new Habitations, that it is very probable many will embrace the Proposal, and that this will prove an effectual Means of civilizing the neighbouring Inhabitants. The Advantages the Czar proposes to himself by this Undertaking are so visible, that it is needless to mention them; and therefore we will conclude this Article with saying, that the Czar having thus settled Affairs in *Moscow*, return'd from thence to *Petersburg*, bringing with him his excluded Son, (who is never to stir out of the Sight of a Guard who are constantly to attend him) and also the Mother of that unfortunate Prince, who has been kept shut up many Years in a Monastery at *Moscow*, and is now to undergo the like Confinement in another Monastery at *Petersburg*. We come in the next Place to speak of the Affairs of the Emperor in Regard to the *Turkish War*.

Soon after the taking of *Belgrade*, Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, upon some Encouragement given him by the *Bashaw Mustapha*, late Governor of *Belgrade*, writ a Letter to the Grand Vizier, containing the Emperor's Resolutions in relation to a Negotiation of Peace; but of all these Transactions we cannot give a more certain Account, than by inserting at large the two following authentick Letters from the *Dutch* Ambassador at the *Ottoman Porte* to the Minister of the States General residing at *Vienna*. The first of these Letters is dated from *Adrianople*, December 14, 1717, and is as follows.

I Set out from *Pisa* the 26th of *November*, and on the 5th of *December* arriv'd here, where I have seen the Great Vizier and the *Caimacan Bashaw*, the Grand Signior's Son-in-Law and Favourite, and paid my Compliments to each of them separately. They have communicated to me his Serene Highness Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy's* Answer, dated from *Vienna* the 12th of *November*, and whereof the Ambassador of *Great Britain* had sent a Copy from *Bazarsick*, situated

4 Leagues from *Philippopoli*, because the Bearer of it was detain'd there with the Original. The said *Turkish* Ministers told me, that they saw with Astonishment how the *Bashaw Mustapha*, the late Governor of *Belgrade*, had offer'd (in order to procure a Peace between the Emperor and the Porte) not only the *Uti Possidetis*, (that each Party should keep what they are now possess'd of) but also to leave *Belgrade* in the Hands of the Emperor, with a Territory of great Extent; the Prince supposing that the Porte would still keep to this, as to an establish'd and customary Preliminary, without explaining himself upon any other Condition, but only this one, gave Instructions and Authority to the *Sieur Dalman* at *Belgrade* to settle it with the *Turkish* Deputies, as a Foundation and unalterable Basis before the opening of a solemn Congress, wherein might be afterward regulated the Methods of Treating, together with other preliminary Conditions for the re-establishing of Peace and Quiet, after these Things should be adjust'd one after another. These were precisely the very Words of the said Ministers, who assur'd me, that the *Bashaw Mustapha* had no such Power, and that he did very ill to offer such Conditions of his own Head; that nevertheless, in Consequence of two several Letters which the Great Vizier had written to Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, the Porte did entirely continue in the same Disposition of concluding with the Emperor a lasting and secure Peace, provided the Fortress of *Belgrade* may be restor'd to this Empire, of which they say some Hopes had been given them. Having been only inform'd of these Things by these Ministers, and by a particular Message from the Embassador of *Great Britain*, who continues still at *Bazasick*, I was not able to make any other Answer; but that their High Mightinesses sought nothing more than to see this ruinous War chang'd into a good Peace or Truce; and that they had given me Authority and full Powers, in Quality of Embassador Mediator, to use all my Endeavours to make it succeed upon such Foundations, as both the Parties could best agree upon: That not being able to judge upon sufficient Grounds of what was propos'd to me, for want of Letters from the Envoy Extraordinary of the united Provinces at *Vienna*, nor before the Return of Secretary *Heffermay*, I could however assure the Porte that it was true, that the former Treaties of Peace

Peace did all of them proceed upon the *Uti possidetis*, and upon some Exchanges or necessary Demolitions, to which if the Porte could not resolve to condescend, it would, in my Opinion, be very difficult to come to an Agreement. Upon this they reply'd to me, that the Porte not being able to think of any Place that might serve as an Exchange for *Belgrade*, would sooner employ their whole Force in prosecuting the War, than leave the said Fortress in the Emperor's Hands. A little while after, there was a private Council held, consisting of the Great Vizier, the Han of the *Tartars*, the *Caimacan Bassaw*, and the *Musti*, after the Conclusion whereof the said Han was suddenly dispatch'd to *Crim-Tartary*. The *Hospodar* of *Walachia* has complain'd to me, that notwithstanding his Correspondence with General *Steinville*, who gave him his Word, that on his Part the Contributions which had been promis'd were always regularly paid, yet some Imperial Troops out of *Transylvania* had again made an Invasion into his Province; begging of me to acquaint you with it, that you might, upon Occasion, interpose your good Offices in this Affair. The said *Hospodar* had flatter'd himself, that he should be made third Plenipotentiary for the Peace; but instead of this, he has been commanded to return to *Walachia*, there to expect the Orders of the Porte. The Messenger who brought Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy's* original Letter, and who was stopt at *Bazarsick*, has got Leave to come hither, so that he's expected to Morrow or the next Day after. I forgot to inform you above, that the Day before the holding of the secret Council, Prince *Ragotski* had a private Audience of the Great Vizier, which lasted a long Quarter of an Hour.

• *Adrianople, December 31, 1717.*

I Sent you my last of the 14th Instant, by the Way of *Transylvania*. On the 20th following I receiv'd yours of the 16th of *October*, by the Way of *Leghorn* and *Smyrna*, which I translated into the *Turkish* Tongue, and represented the Contents thereof, as far as I judg'd it necessary, to the Ministers of this Court; which, together with the Answer of Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, which came two Days after, occasion'd several Consultations among those Ministers; after which the Great Vizier, and afterwards the *Caimacan*, the Sul-
tan's

tan's Son-in-law and Favourite, told me, That it had been resolv'd and concluded to return to the said Prince *Eugene* a very civil Answer, (although the said Court has not thought fit to explain themselves about the Point of the *Uri Possidetis*, to be the Foundation of the Peace) and to disown all that *Mustapha Bashaw*, late Governor of *Belgrade*, might have order'd without the Knowledge or Orders of the Porte, as you will see by the Copy of the Great Vizier's Letter. Having us'd my best Endeavours to inform my self of this Matter, in relation to the Propositions contain'd in that Letter, and likewise about what the *Sieur Dalman* has written from *Belgrade* to the *Reis-Effendi*, or Secretary of State, I found first of all, that this Court seems dispos'd to enter with the Emperor into a Cessation of Arms upon the Foot of the *Uri Possidetis*, (that is, that each Party shall keep what he is now possess'd of) during the Space of two, three, or four Years; but by no Means to yield *Belgrade* by way of Peace, or a long Truce; neither do they think it proper that any Negotiation should be carry'd on about any one of these Points in the Absence of the *British* Embassadors, and that of the States-General, between Monsieur *Dalman*, as authoriz'd thereto by Prince *Eugene*, and the Commissaries of this Empire, before the opening of a formal Congress: And whereas his Highness has thought fit to reject in civil Terms a Congress at *Pissarowitz*, this Court has propos'd instead of that, three other neutral Places, viz. *Tergowitz* between *Sibin* and *Buckarest*, *Fetteslau*, or any other Place situate between *Belgrade* and *Nissa*, that his Imperial and Catholick Majesty shall think fit to name, to endeavour to adjust there all Differences, upon Condition, that his said Majesty sends his Plenipotentiaries thither as soon as possible, in order that a firm Peace, Truce, or Cessation of Arms may be agreed upon, to the mutual Advantage and Tranquillity of the Subjects on both Sides, before the opening of the next Campaign. I was likewise at the same Time desir'd to repair immediately to *Taras-Basarsik*, where the Embassadors of Great Britain and the Turkish Plenipotentiaries still are, and from thence to proceed by easy Journeys with them towards *Nissa*, to be the nearer at Hand, and the more ready to repair to the Place that shall be chosen for the Congress,

gress, as soon as they have receiv'd Advice of it from Vienna.

I cannot forbear mentioning to you, that the Grand Signior seems firmly resolv'd to put himself next Campaign at the Head of all the Forces of his vast Empire, and to try once more the Fortune of War, in Case his Imperial and Catholick Majesty refuses the Proposals and Conditions that are offer'd by the Porte. After having maturely consider'd and well weigh'd all that is necessary for that great Work, and for reconciling the Parties now in War, I think I may assure you, Sir, that this Court appears to be sincerely inclin'd to Peace; but upon these first Steps they cannot nor dare not explain themselves any farther; and thereupon, if I am not mistaken, there is Reason to believe, that if a Place of Congress is speedily appointed, and the Imperial Plenipotentiaries sent thither without Delay, the Differences between the Emperor and the Porte may easily be adjusted, through the Mediation of his *Britannick* Majesty and the States of the United Provinces. I desire you therefore, Sir, most earnestly to consider of this Affair, in Concert with his *Britannick* Majesty's Ministers at Vienna, and jointly to use your utmost Endeavours that the Place for a Congress be forthwith nam'd, and that the Plenipotentiaries of his Imperial and Catholick Majesty, with those of this Empire, and the Embassadors Mediators may meet there together as soon as possible, to bring this grand Affair to a Conclusion. The Courier of Prince Eugene was sent back from hence so suddenly, that I had not Time to get the Informations I wanted before his Departure, and was oblig'd purposely to dispatch one of my Servants, with the Leave and Orders of the Porte, to Belgrade, to carry this Letter more safely; and I have order'd him to stay there for your Answer, having recommended to Monsieur Dalmanc the speedy Dispatch of the Letters.

The Great Vizier's Answer to Prince Eugene's Letter mentioned in the Letter above, is as follows:

AFTER most sincere Salutations, we notify to you, that we receiv'd the Letter which you wrote to us, containing among other Things, that for establishing a Peace between the two Empires, you believe

lieve it to be necessary first to lay solid Foundations, upon which a Peace may be afterwards built, agreeably to the Tenor of the Letter of *Mustapha Bassaw*, late Governor of *Belgrade*, who mention'd, that it was necessary to agree beforehand upon Limits. But if, as he went out of the Place, or at his Arrival at *Nissa*, he talk'd in general Terms to some of your Generals, upon some Heads relating to Peace, we gave him no Commission or full Power for it. And also, if in the Letter which he sent you by some of his People, whom he sent to *Belgrade* upon particular Affairs, he declar'd or promis'd you any Thing concerning our Inclination to Peace, we believe not that you ought to lay any Stress upon such vain Promises, or even to hearken to them. And as you disavow'd, in the Letter which you wrote to us while we were still at *Nissa*, the Answer of some of your Generals to the said *Mustapha Bassaw*, upon the Subject of restoring Peace, as having been made without your Consent; so also it ought not to be doubted, that if the said *Mustapha* in his Letter advanc'd any Thing concerning Preliminaries of the Peace, he did it without any Authority from us.

We doubt not that being so understanding as you are, you will agree, that a Peace made by the Concurrence of both Parties, will procure many Advantages; among the rest, the Repose and Tranquillity of the Subjects of the two Empires, and that in banishing all Hostilities, Concord will be the true Fruit of it. In your Letter you observe, that the Congress for treating of Peace ought not to be held at *Passarowitz*, but in some other Place that shall be agreed on. To which Purpose the Sublime Porte has already nam'd for its Plenipotentiaries, *Ibrahim Effendi*, Secretary and faithful Counsellor, and Treasurer of the second Order, and *Mahomet Effendi*, Treasurer of the third Order; and for Mediator, the Ambassador of *Great Britain*. When all these Ministers are arriv'd at *Barasieck*, we shall set out with our glorious Army to go to *Adrianople* upon Affairs of the Empire which call us thither, as also to labour there in the Preparations for the War, and bow our selves humbly before our most powerful, august, and invincible Emperor, and Lord, to whom may the Empire by divine Protection remain for ever. We have not fail'd to communicate to our most August Emperor what you have menti-

mention'd concerning the true Inclination which your most serene Emperor and Lord shews to Peace, for putting an End to so many Misfortunes, and for restoring the publick Tranquillity. His Highness, according to his Imperial Clemency, touch'd with Compassion towards the Subjects of both Empires, has granted his Imperial Powers for re-establishing a new Peace. To which Effect he has written to all the said Plenipotentiaries and Mediators, to go directly to *Nissa*, and to remain there.

And as in the last Treaty of Peace concluded at *Carlowitz*, the Ambassador of *Holland* was equally receiv'd as Mediator with that of *Great Britain*; it is now found useful and necessary that the Ambassador of *Holland* employ all his good Offices in Quality of Mediator. When all these Ministers are come together, they will invite the Plenipotentiaries whom his Imperial Majesty shall name, to come thither also.

And some Place in *Walachia* between *Bucharest* and *Hermanstadt*, or about *Fretislaw*, or towards *Moravia*, being more convenient to us than any other, you may chuse one of the three, which appears most commodious for you; to the end that the Plenipotentiaries may take in hand this great Work, and treat according to the Instructions and Powers that are given them.

This is what I have to write to you in this Letter, which will be deliver'd to you by your Man, not doubting but when you have receiv'd it, and are fully inform'd of the present Situation of Affairs, you will labour with Sincerity and Ardour for restoring the publick Tranquillity, and will take just Measures for procuring a Peace founded upon reasonable Conditions.

On my Side, till such Time as our Armies come out of their Winter-Quarters, I shall employ all my Care that no more Prisoners be made; and by my Words and Actions will endeavour to remove all Obstacles that may arise to interrupt the Success of our future Amity. You ought also, in Imitation of your Predecessors, to employ your self with the same Diligence, towards the accomplishing so great a Work, in order to acquire thereby an immortal Glory. We must then, after so many Preliminaries, employ all our Strength towards bringing to Perfection this great Work, and to the restoring our an-

tient Friendship; and so to order Things, that War may throw out no new Flames, which may in the End occasion the entire Ruin of the Subjects; and that finally, the reciprocal Inclination of both Parties for the Re-establishment of Peace and Tranquillity, may be the solid Foundation of the Treaty. Let the Plenipotentiaries of both Parties then assemble, and treat of what concerns our mutual Advantage, to the End that it may be known that Repose is establish'd in both Empires.

When you have fully consider'd this our Letter, we assure our selves, that you will employ your Care in causing one of the Places we have mention'd, to be chosen, and in sending thither, without Delay, the Plenipotentiaries nam'd by the Emperor, to labour in the Accomplishment of this great Work. We desire they may be furnish'd with the necessary Full Powers, and we hope his Imperial Majesty will give thereupon convenient Orders, &c.

In answer to this Letter, Prince *Eugene* writ another to the Grand Vizier, declaring in express Terms, in the Emperor's Name, that his Imperial Majesty would not consent to the opening of a Congress on any other Terms than, That the *Turks* shall not dispute the Conquests made by the Imperial Arms; that the Subject of the Negotiation should be only the settling of the Limits of both Empires, and that there should be no Cessation of Arms during the Time of Treaty. Upon this the *Turks* began seriously to hearken to Peace, and the new Grand Vizier, tho' the best Soldier who had fill'd that Post for many Years, and a Man who had made himself terrible to the *Hungarians* and *Croatians*, by several Actions that had been fatal to them, yet was withal a Man of such Prudence as not to be rashly forward for War, and being willing, besides, to keep the new Honour he had gain'd, which in Case of a Defeat he was sure to lose, and perhaps his Life, began to inspire the Sultan with peaceful Thoughts, by discountenancing Prince *Ragotski*, whose Influence over the Grand Signior had chiefly inclin'd that Prince to continue the War. In Prosecution of this pacifick Temper of the Grand Vizier, a Divan was held at *Adrianople*, where it was carry'd by a great Majority of Votes, to enter into a Negotiation of Peace. Accordingly about the Beginning of *April* an Express arriv'd

arriv'd at *Vienna* with Advice, that the *Porte* had agreed to the above Demands of the Emperor, except only that they made pressing Instances to the Imperial Court to obtain a Cessation of Arms: But that Court having Reason to suspect that the chief View of the *Turks* was to gain Time, 'till they should be able to discover what Turn the Emperor's Quarrel with *Spain* was like to take, at first absolutely persisted in their former Resolution, not to suspend the Progress of their victorious Arms, and would consent only that a small Extent of Land of about two Leagues round the Place of Congress, should be exempt from Hostilities on both Sides; but at the same Time promis'd that the Imperial Army should not enter upon Action before the 15th of *June*. In Pursuance of these Resolutions, such Steps were taken to push forward a Treaty, that about the Middle of *May* the Plenipotentiaries on all Sides repair'd to the Place of Congress; which was agreed to be held in the open Fields, under Tents, near *Passarowitz*, on the Banks of the River *Morava*. The *Turkish* Plenipotentiaries were *Ibrahim Effendi*, *Mahomet Effendi*, and *Mauro Cordato*, the Hospodar or Prince of *Walachia*. Those on the Part of his Imperial Majesty were, Count *Vimond* and *M. Dahlman*, and Signior *Ruzzini* on the Part of the Republick of *Venice*. The Ministers Mediators were Sir *Robert Sutton* and Mr. *Stanyan* on the Part of the King of *Great Britain*, and Count *Collyer* on Behalf of the States-General.

We come now to speak of the Emperor's Affairs in Relation to *Spain*; and having in our *Register* N^o 8 given the Manifesto's which the *Spanish* Ministers in *France* and *Holland* publish'd in Justification of the King of *Spain*'s having attack'd the Emperor, we will here insert an Abstract of a Manifesto which Count *Gallas*, the Imperial Ambassador at the Court of *Rome*, presented to the Pope and the sacred College, and which was afterwards publish'd in *Italian*. This Manifesto is chiefly directed against Cardinal *Alberoni*, and contains in Substance as follows:

THAT there has been for some Months past a Correspondence between the Court of *Madrid* and the *Ottoman Porte*, manag'd by Cardinal *Alberoni*, chief Minister of the said Court, who employ'd there-

in the Rebel (Prince) *Ragotski*, who liv'd then retir'd in the Monastery of the *Camaljolites* near *Paris*, and some of his Adherents, who had frequent Conferences with the Prince *de Cellamare*, about that Subject: That the Project of an Alliance between those two Courts, was form'd in the said Conferences: That they engag'd a great Number of *French* Officers and common Soldiers to be sent to *Constantinople* by the Way of *Marseilles* and *Toulon*, with a great Quantity of Arms and Ammunition, for which that Cardinal had remitted the necessary Sums to the Prince *de Cellamare*, which he paid to *Ragotski*, and advanc'd to him besides other great Sums: That it appears by a Letter from the said *Ragotski*, dated from *Constantinople* November 16, to the Prince *de Cellamare*, that he had observ'd that the *Turks*, who were in the utmost Consternation and Apprehensions, had immediately resolv'd, upon the Offer of the Alliance with *Spain*, to continue the War, relying chiefly on the Promises made by Cardinal *Alberoni*, that a War should be carry'd on against the Emperor in *Italy*,* and that thereby the Emperor would be oblig'd to weaken his Forces in *Hungary*: That he the said *Ragotski* had represented in such strong Terms to the Vizier, as the latter had done to the Sultan, the great Advantages that the Porte would receive from this Alliance, especially after the Conquest of *Sardinia*, that the Sultan would no longer hearken to the *Mufti* and others, who advis'd him to make Peace; but immediately gave Orders to augment his Land Forces, and his Fleet with 10 Sultana's and 8 Gallies above what he had last Year, in Hopes to retrieve his Losses by Means of the Diversion promis'd by *Spain*: That the Alliance being thus far approv'd, the *Turks* had desir'd him to obtain full Powers from the Court of *Madrid* to conclude the same: That the said *Ragotski* relates farther in the said Letter, the great Marks of Distinction he had receiv'd at the *Turkish* Court, upon Account of an Embassy so very acceptable to them, and that the Sultan had signify'd to him how much he was satisfy'd to see, as he had desir'd, the Number of his Friends increas'd by this Alliance, and that of his Enemies lessen'd thereby: That he had been desir'd to represent all these Things to the Court of *Madrid*, seeing they could never expect a more favourable

able Opportunity to bring about so great a Work ; and that they must strike the Iron while it was hot.

That the Prince *de Cellamare* having receiv'd, on the 14th of *January* last, an Express from *Madrid*, had a Conference in the Monastery of the *Camaldolites* aforesaid, with one *Kisfauldi*, Treasurer of *Ragotski*, his Banker, and the Abbot *Brunner* his Agent, who sent those Officers, Soldiers, and Ammunition to *Constantinople* : That another Confident of Cardinal *Alberoni*, nam'd *Don Joseph*, arriv'd at *Marseilles*, to embark upon the first Opportunity for *Constantinople*, with the Character of Envoy from *Spain* to *Ragotski*, in Company with one *Dabzac*, Captain of the Life-Guard of the said *Ragotski* ; that the Prince *de Cellamare* having had Conferences for three Days together with the Treasurer, Banker, and Agent of *Ragotski* aforesaid, had sent one of his trusty Servants, call'd *Rolain*, to *Constantinople* with Directions and Money.

From all which it clearly appears, that there is an Alliance and free Correspondence between the Court of *Madrid* and the *Porte*, whereof Cardinal *Alberoni* is the Author, and is the Promoter of so scandalous a Plot. And it is easy to discern that these barbarous Designs afforded the chief Foundation for Beginning the War against the Emperor.

That all the Allegations above-mention'd are not drawn from Hearsay or fictitious Reports, but founded upon most authentick Writings, from which the Extracts are made almost Word for Word. And for Proof whereof, the original Writings shall in due Time be produc'd.

That the Declaration of such an Affair cannot be heard without being mov'd with such Abhorrence as the Dishonour which it brings upon the Holy See, the sacred College, and the Catholick Church deserves, seeing Impiety grown to such a Pitch, that a Person, who in Consideration of his high Dignity ought to be one of the main Supporters of the Temple of God, has so divested himself of all Righteousness and Modesty, that at the very Time of his putting on the Purple, he laid down all Shame, and did not blush to enter into Negotiations and Treaties with the Enemies of the Christian Name, making his Purple serve as a Type of the Blood of the Faithful, who are to be offer'd as a Sacrifice to his Ambition ; whereas his Calling ought rather to move him to shed his own
Blood

Blood for the Defence of his Religion, and to lend his Assistance, if not by Actions, at least by Prayers, that the Arms which have been so gloriously taken up for the Extirpation of Infidels, might be attended with Success.

'Tis not also to be doubted in the least, that all impartial Christians will observe the great and weighty Reasons his Imperial Majesty has to complain, and express his Resentment for Actions so abominable and so black. And what just Cause his Imperial and Royal Majesty has to require his Holiness and the Court of *Rome* to interest themselves in the Justice of his Cause, and to testify their Indignation against all who have had any Hand in this Machination, seeing they deserve to be look'd upon rather as Enemies to God, than to the Emperor.

It has been observ'd that this Manifesto takes no Notice of the Complaints of the King of *Spain* against the Emperor, but leaves us still in the Dark as to what his Imperial Majesty is charg'd with in the above-mention'd Memorials of the *Spanish* Ministers: Mean while the Emperor's Affairs in *Italy* have but an ill Aspect: For Example, In *Naples* the whole Kingdom is so disaffected, that they seem ready for a general Revolt: In *Milan*, the Soldiers rebel and revolt in whole Companies, and the Detachments sent after them, run over to them, and join in the Revolt: On the Coast all their Ships are taken, and such Numbers of Soldiers are made Prisoners of War on every Occasion, that in *Spain* they have form'd a Regiment of Foot of 2300 Men, all of *German* Soldiers, which they have taken from the Emperor, and have 1200 more Prisoners in *Cagliari*, *Messina*, and *Barcelona*. Besides, it is one of the Complaints of the Emperor against the *Genoese*, that they encourage the *German* Soldiers to desert, and that they have two whole Battalions of them form'd, and many others listed in the Regiments of *Genoa*. On the other hand, the *Spaniards* are by all agreed to be in a very formidable Posture, indeed, both by Sea and Land, and are just upon the Point of executing their grand Design. But at the same Time that *Spain* is making all its Efforts to shew their Enemies what Condition they are in to do themselves Justice, the Emperor, who is too wise to slight the *Spanish* Power, has shewn the World that he

he knows how to take Advantage of a good Mediation; and how high and big soever they at first talk'd at *Vienna*, no sooner were the Proposals, drawn up by the Courts of *France* and *Great Britain*, offer'd to them, but the Emperor took the wisest Course, and sign'd that Scheme, returning the Instrument to the Court of *Great Britain*, in order to be sent to *Spain* for an Acceptance there. The King of *Spain* shew'd a Willingness to come to an Accommodation with the Emperor, but insisted on several Articles not included in those Proposals. What the Event of all this will be, must be left to Time to discover.

But how formidable soever the King of *Spain* may appear to his Enemies, that has not hinder'd some of his own Subjects from revolting against him; of which we have the following Account from *Ladoga*, Capital of *Teneriff*, one of the *Canary Islands*, dated the 31st of *January* last.

ON the 18th of this Month, about to a Clock at Night, when we just began to taste the Sweetness of Repose, we heard all of a sudden a great Noise of Voices, which cry'd out, *Long live King Philip V. but let the bad Government die.* This confus'd Cry was the Signal of a Revolt against *Don Diego Navarro*, Factor and privative Judge of Tobacco in the *Canary Islands*, by Reason of the Vexations which it is pretended he has been guilty of since the Month of *August* last, when he arriv'd in these Islands. Four or five hundred arm'd Men assembled themselves about his House, into which they tumultuously enter'd. But that Minister having timely Notice of their Design, was retir'd to the General's, and had sent his Wife and Retinue to the *Marquess d'Acialeasar's*. The Mutineers broke open his Chests and Cabinets, to seize his Papers, but meddled with nothing else; then they invested the Houses of the General and *Marquess*. They broke open the *Marquess's* Door upon the Refusal to open it, and search'd all over it in Hopes of finding more Papers. They threaten'd the General to enter his House by Force also, if he refus'd to give them Entrance; wherefore the General, a Man as much respected for his Merit as high Station, took the wisest Course, and let them in, hoping thereby to appease them: And it may be said, to the Praise of the General,

neral, that if he had not acted with that Prudence he is a known Master of, he had not only expos'd his own Person, but also the whole City. The Seditious having at last found *Don Diego Novarro*, they brought him on Horseback to the Port of the *Holy Cross*; the General thought fit to accompany him, to screen him from the Peoples Resentment. Being arriv'd at the Port, where were also four or five hundred arm'd Men, they search'd him and found some Papers, which they also seiz'd; after which, they would have put him on Board a *French Ship*; but the Captain of it being in the City, the Seamen refus'd to receive him; upon which they went to the Captain's Inn, rais'd him out of his Bed, constrain'd him to go on Board and take with him their Prisoner, and to weigh Anchor, and sail to some Distance from Land, notwithstanding the Representations of the Captain, that he wanted Water and Provisions, and that he had not his Dispatches, nor an Order from the Consul. However, he obtain'd a Writing from the Secretary, that he was forc'd by the People. They search'd also the House of this Judge at *St. Cross*, where they found Abundance of Papers, and burnt them.

The next Day, the 19th, the Seditious sent on Board also the Wife of *Don Diego*, his Domesticks, and all his Baggage, of which they touch'd no Part. And at the same Time forc'd the Consul to give the necessary Dispatches to the Captain; who having receiv'd them, sail'd the next Day.

The 21st they seiz'd the Notary of *Don Diego Novarro*, and threw him in Goal, to force him to discover his Papers. The Lieutenant-General, and the Director of the Customs, were also carry'd to Prison for the same Reason; but they were soon let out, having fully justify'd themselves.

The 24th the People, according to Custom, made Choice of a *Personarius* or Deputy, who represents the People, and is to maintain them in their Privileges. After which there was no farther Disorder.

The Affairs of the North are all one entire Mystery of entangled Negotiations; nor dare we pretend to say in what they will end. The King of *Sweden* has, by lying still, more plung'd, harass'd, and divided his Enemies, than ever he could have done by attacking them in the Field. They are now courting and treat-