

she has always had the Goodness to declare to me, That in these troublesome Times she would use all the good Offices possible for restoring the publick Tranquillity. How much is the said Tranquillity to be wish'd for! His Catholick Majesty has it as much at Heart as any body whatsoever, nay, (I dare venture to say) more than England, which, under Pretence of procuring so precious a Treasure as the publick Tranquillity, does actually execute such Things as all the World is amaz'd at.

What need I point out to my Lords the States-General, both the Honour and Profit they might obtain by their Mediation, they being able to find out Expedients for obtaining my Aim, whereby we might be brought to so valuable and precious an End; no doubt but they have already maturely weigh'd these Things.

The only Aim his Majesty had in taking up Arms, the doing of which I so well justify'd by the Infractions of the Neutrality of Italy, which every one, even of the meanest Understanding, must needs be convinc'd of; as also, That England violates, without any Regard, the Treaties of Utrecht, Baden, and all others. The only Aim, I say, of his Majesty has been nothing else but the Liberty of Europe, to make Italy secure, to the End that a Country, which, above all others, is accessible so many Ways, both by Sea and Land, might not be entirely swallow'd up at once by the House of Austria, according to the famous Project that House has form'd, whenever the said House should think fit, and that in one single Campaign.

Finally, His Majesty wish'd for an equitable Balance, settled by unanimous Consent of all the Powers, which therefore is not a particular Advantage for his Majesty, but a general one for all Europe.

This illustrious Republick, which by her wise Management maintains her self in a State of doing Good, according to the favourable Intentions of his Majesty, and keeps a watchful Eye upon all necessary Events, in Favour of all such as wish for an equitable and firm Peace, will, at last, obtain the Veneration and Praise due to her, and secure the Continuation of her Commerce. An Article of great Consequence to her. And finally, may expect, that if God bless her Endeavours therein, all Countries will be beholden to her for the same.

About the same Time the said Marquess de Beretti Landi caus'd the following Account of the Sea-Fight, off Syracuse, to be printed.

On

ON the 9th of *August* in the Morning, the *English* Squadron was discover'd near the Tower of *Faro*, which lay by toward Night off of Cape *Jella Mittelle*, over against the said Tower. The *Spanish* Squadron was then in the Streight, and some Ships and Fregates were sent to other Places, besides the Detachment commanded by Admiral *Guevara*. And as the Intention of the *English* in coming so near was not known, the Admirals of the *Spanish* Squadron resolv'd to go out of the Streight, to join together near Cape *Spartivento*, carrying along with them the Transports laden with Provisions, that they might penetrate the better into the Designs of the *English*, the rather, because the Officer whom Sir *George Byng* had sent to the *Marquess de Lede*, was not yet return'd: The said Officer had Orders to propose to the said *Marquess* a Suspension of Arms for 2 Months: Upon which the said *Marquess* answer'd him, That he could not do it without Orders from Court: Nevertheless, though it was believ'd, that the Alternative was taken of sending a Courier to *Madrid* with the said Proposal, yet the *English* Squadron took the Opportunity of the Night to surprise the *Spanish* Squadron, and to improve those Advantages which were owing to Disimulation.

The said *English* Squadron on the 10th in the Morning advanc'd farther into the *Faro*, and was saluted by all the *Spanish* Ships and Vessels which were there; and it is to be observ'd, that Admiral *Byng* having convoy'd some Transport Vessels as far as *Rixoles* with the Arch-Duke's Troops, the Officer dispatch'd to the *Marquess de Lede*, affirm'd, That it was not to commit any Act of Hostility, but only, that the said Transports might be secur'd from Insults, under his Protection.

The *Spanish* Squadron sent two light Fregates to get Intelligence of the *English* Squadron; and though they saw that the *English* made all the Sail they could (their Intention being not known) to approach the *Spanish* Squadron, whose Admiral knew not then whether the *English* came as Friends or Enemies; yet the *Spaniards* being two Leagues from the *English*, resolv'd to retire toward Cape *Pissaro*, but without making much Sail, that it might not be thought they suspected any Hostilities.

During

During this, a Calm happen'd, by which the Ships of both Squadrons fell in one among another; and the *Spanish* Admiral perceiving this Accident, caus'd the Ships of the Line to be tow'd, in order to separate them from the *English*, and join them in one Body, without permitting the Gallies to begin any Act of Hostility, which they might have done to their Advantage, during the Calm. The Weather chang'd, when the *Marques de Mari* was near Land, and by Consequence separated from the rest, making the Rear-Guard with several Fregates and other Transport-Vessels which made up his Division, and endeavour'd, though in vain, to join the main Body of the *Spanish* Squadron, while the *English* held on their Way, their Disimulation filling their Sails to gain the Wind, and cut off the said Division of the *Marques de Mari*; and having, at last, succeed'd in it, they attack'd him with six Ships, and oblig'd him to separate from the rest of the Squadron, and to make toward the Coast, where they stood it against seven Ships of the Line, as long as Situation permitted; and being no longer able to resist, the *Marques de Mari* sav'd his Men, by running his Ships a-ground, some of which were burn'd by his own Order, and others taken by the Enemy.

Seventeen Ships of the Line, the Remainder of the *English* Squadron, attack'd the Royal *St. Philip*, the Prince of *Asturias*, the *St. Ferdinand*, *St. Charles*, *St. Isabella*, *St. Pedro*, and the Fregates *St. Rosa*, *Pearl*, *Juno*, and *Volante*, which continu'd making towards Cape *Pissaro*; and as they retir'd in a Line because of the Inequality of their Strength, the *English* attack'd those that compos'd the Rear-Guard with four or five Ships, and took them; and this happen'd successively to the others, which, notwithstanding all the Sail they made, could not avoid being beaten; insomuch, that every *Spanish* Ship being attack'd separately by five, six, or seven of theirs, after a bloody and obstinate Fight they made themselves Masters, at last, of the Royal *St. Philip*, the Prince of *Asturias*, the *St. Charles*, the *St. Isabella*, *St. Rosa*, the *Volante*, and the *Juno*.

While the Royal *St. Philip* was engag'd with the *English*, the Admiral of the Squadron Don *Balthazar de Guevera*, return'd from *Malta* with two Ships of the Line, and turning his Prow toward the *St. Philip*, pass'd



pass'd by the *English* Ships which were a-breast of him, firing upon each of them, and then attack'd Admiral *Byng's* Ships, which follow'd the *St. Philip*, and retir'd in the Night, being very much damag'd; for after the Engagement, he stay'd 3 or 4 Days 50 Leagues at Sea, not only to repair the *Spanish* Ships which he had taken, and were all shatter'd to Pieces, but also to make good the Damages which himself had suffer'd; wherefore he could not enter *Syracuse* till the 16th and 17th of *August*, and that with a great deal of Difficulty.

The Particulars of the Action are, That the whole Division of the *English* Admiral, which consisted of seven Ships of the Line, and a Fireship, having attack'd the Royal *St. Philip* at Two in the Afternoon, the Fight began by a Ship of 70 Guns, and another of 60, from whom he receiv'd two Broadsides, and advancing toward the Royal *St. Philip*, Don *Antonio de Castagnetta* defended himself so well, that the said two Ships retir'd, and two others, viz. one of 80 Guns, and the other of 70, renew'd the Attack, and the said Ship of 80 Guns retir'd very much shatter'd, without making into the Line; but the others making toward the *Spanish* Admiral, they fir'd upon him, while it was impossible for him to hurt them, and shor away all his Rigging, without leaving him one entire Sail, while two others, one of 70, and the other of 60 Guns, attack'd the Starboard of his Ship to oblige him to surrender; but defending himself still, the *English* Admiral was resolv'd to board him, and carry'd a Fireship to reduce him by the Flames, which the *Spanish* Commander prevented; but after having lost 200 Men, and maintain'd the Fight till toward Night, Don *Antonio de Castagnetta* receiv'd a Shot which pierc'd his left Leg, and wounded his right Heel, yet nevertheless he continu'd to defend himself, till a Cannon Bullet having cut a Man in two, the Pieces of which fell upon him, and left him half dead, he was forc'd to surrender.

The Prince of *Asturias*, commanded by Admiral Don *Fernando Chacon*, was, at the same Time, attack'd with three Ships of equal Force, against which he defended himself valiantly, avoiding being boarded, till being wounded, and having lost most of his Men, he was oblig'd to surrender his Ship, which was all



shot thro' and thro', after having shot down the Masts of an *English* Ship that retir'd out of the Fight.

Captain Don *Anthony Gonfalet*, Commander of the Frigate *St. Rosa*, defended himself above three Hours against five *English* Ships, who did not take him till after they had broke all his Sails and Masts.

The *Volante*, commanded by Capt. Don *Antonio Escudero*, Knight of the Order of *Malta*, fought three Hours and a half against three *English* Ships, and having lost his Sails, he put up others that were in Store, and was just going to board one of the three Ships that attack'd him, but his own being shot thro' and thro' by six Cannon Bullets, and the Water coming in, he was oblig'd to surrender, because the Ship's Crew forc'd him.

The *Juno* was engag'd also with three *English* Ships, yet maintain'd the Fight above three Hours, not surrendering till after most of her Men were kill'd, and the Ship just falling in Pieces.

Captain Don *Gabriel Aldete* also defended the Frigate call'd the *Pearl* against three *English* Ships for three Hours, and after having shot down the Masts of one, which immediately retir'd, he was reliev'd by Admiral Don *Balthazar de Guevara*, and had the good Fortune to escape to *Malta*.

Captain Don *Andrea Reggio*, Knight of the Order of *Malta*, who was farthest advanc'd with the Ship the *Isabella*, was pursu'd all that Night by several *English* Ships, and after having defended himself for 4 Hours, he surrender'd the next Day.

The Frigate call'd the *Surprise*, which was of the *Marquess de Mari's* Division, and by Consequence farther advanc'd than the others, was attack'd by three *English* Ships, and maintain'd a Fight for three Hours, till her Captain Don *Michael de Sada*, Knight of the Order of *St. John*, being wounded, most of her Men kill'd, and all her Rigging spoil'd, she was forc'd to surrender.

The other light Ships and Frigates of the *Spanish* Squadron, not already mention'd, retir'd to *Malta* and *Sardinia*; as did also the Admiral Don *Balthazar de Guevara*, with his two Ships, *St. Lewis* and *St. John*, after having been engag'd with the *English* Admiral, and rescu'd the Frigate call'd the *Pearl*.

It must not be forgot, that the Marines in every Ship signaliz'd and distinguish'd themselves with a great deal of Valour, they being compos'd of the Nobility of *Spain*.

The seven Gallies, which were under the Command of Admiral Don *Francisco de Grima*, having done all that was possible to join the *Spanish* Ships, seeing that there was still a fresh Gale of Wind, retir'd to *Palermo*.

Besides the above-mention'd Ships which the *English* took out of the main Body of the *Spanish* Squadron, they also made themselves Masters of the *Royal*, and of two Frigates, the *St. Idore*, and the *Eagle*. Those that were burnt by the Order of the *Marques de Mari*, are two Bomb-Galleys, a Fire-ship, and the *Esperance* Frigate; so that the Ships which escap'd out of the Battle are the following; *St. Lewis*, *St. John*, *St. Ferdinand*, and *St. Peter*; and the Frigates, *Hermione*, *Pearl*, *Galera*, *Porcupine*, *Thoulouze*, *Lyon*, *Little St. John*, the *Arrow*, *Little St. Ferdinand*, a Bomb Galley, and a Ship of *Pinaro*.

This is the Account of the Sea Fight, which was at the Height of *Abola*, or the Gulph of *l'Arigo*, in the Canal of *Malta*, between the *Spanish* and *English* Squadrons; the last of which, by ill Faith, and the Superiority of their Strength, had the Advantage to beat the *Spanish* Ships singly one by one; and it is to be believ'd, by the Defence which the *Spaniards* made, That if they had acted jointly, the Battle would have ended more happily for them.

Immediately after the Fight, a Captain of the *English* Squadron came, in the Name of Admiral *Byng*, to make a Compliment of Excuse to the *Marques de Lede*, giving him to understand, That the *Spaniards* had been the Aggressors, and that this Action ought not to be look'd upon as a Rupture, because the *English* did not take it as such. To which it was answer'd, That *Spain*, on the contrary, will reckon it a formal Rupture, and that they would do the *English* all the Damage and Hostilities imaginable, by giving Orders to begin with Reprisals; and in Consequence of this, several *Spanish* Vessels, and *Guevara's* Squadron, have already taken some *English* Ships.

About the same Time the *Marques de Beretti Landi*, communicated to the States-General the two fol-

following Letters from Cardinal *Alberoni* to the Marquess *de Mon-eleone* Ambassador at the Court of *Great Britain*, concerning the Letter written by Mr. Secretary *Craggs* to the said Ambassador, dated at *Hampton-Court*, September 4, 1718, which Letter is inserted in the last Register, p. 306.

S I R,

THE Breach of Faith of the *British* Ministry hath sufficiently shewn itself, in the unjust and unforeseen Hostility committed by Sir *George Byng* against his Majesty's Squadron; yet, forasmuch as Mr. *Craggs*, Secretary of State, endeavours, in the Letter which he wrote to your Excellency the 4th of September, to perswade the World of the contrary, 'tis unavoidably necessary to repeat to you, that this Action was already premeditated, and that Admiral *Byng* conceal'd his Intention, the better to abuse the Confidence of our Generals in *Sicily*, by giving them his Word that he would not commit any Hostility.

More were universally surpriz'd at the Arrival of the first Minister of *Great Britain* at the Court of the Catholick King, these to make Proposals of Peace and of Suspension of Arms, at the same Time that the Naval Force of the Potentate who should have been Mediator, was performing the Actions of an open Rupture.

It doth not suffice to say, that a Rupture might and must be predicted, by the Demand which the Lord *Stanhope* made of a Pass for the Security of his Person in his Majesty's Dominions; and 'tis needless to repeat what pass'd betwixt the Marquess *de Lede* and Sir *George Byng*, while he was in *Sicily*, concerning a Suspension of Arms; because no body is ignorant that the Marquess *de Lede* was not authoris'd for it, and that his Instructions requir'd nothing else of him, than to recover that Kingdom, without empowering him to enter into a Negotiation of Peace: For 'tis very customary to demand Passes, to secure ones self against Accidents, and especially, because by that means Nations shew their mutual Respect for each other: But 'tis no where to be found in History, nor is it compatible with Good Faith, neither have the most barbarous People yet learn'd the Maxim, of sending a Minister from one Court



‘ Court to another, with the Character of Mediator, there to treat of Peace, and of executing at the same Time the utmost Rigours of War.

‘ Mr. *Craggs* complains, in his Letter, of the Imposts laid on the Merchandizes of *Great Britain*; but besides that no Man can make this out, the ancient Customs observ’d in *Spain* having been practis’d from the Signing of the Peace of *Utrecht*, upon the first Demand of Mr. *Bubb*, Minister of that Crown, for the making and settling a new Tariff, the same was readily agreed to: And as it prov’d a Work of Time, Endeavours were used to accomplish and conclude it at *Cadiz*, with the Assistance of the publick Merchants of all Nations, who sign’d it. The King himself approv’d it, and it had infallibly been printed and publish’d, had not the *English* Squadron appear’d in the *Mediterranean*, to oppose his Majesty’s just Undertaking.

‘ There never was a Thought entertain’d of prohibiting several kind of Goods expressly allow’d by the said Treaty; neither did the King deny the *South-Sea* Company the Schedules for their Annual Vessels, his Majesty having only desir’d the said Company to let them alone for this Year, because he had resolv’d not to send his own Galleons, at the Request of those who trade to the *Indies*, and of the Consulate of *Cadiz*, who affirm’d, that *America* was too overstock’d with all Sorts of Goods, that it was impossible to dispose of them.

‘ His Majesty hath done nothing therein, that is against the express Words of the Treaty; on the contrary, he hath by such Conduct shewn his Inclination to favour the Commerce of the *British* Nation; for he offer’d at the same Time, that the *English* might send thither two Ships instead of one next Year; and the King was dispos’d (notwithstanding the above-mention’d Request) to consent to the Departure of the said Annual Ship, not regarding the Prejudice his Finances would have suffer’d therefrom.

‘ The Detention of the Merchant Ships, to transport Troops, Horses, and Ammunition, was perform’d without any Constraint, and with the peaceable Consent of the Parties concern’d, whose Freight was punctually paid. ’Tis not *Spain* that introduc’d this Custom, the Merchant Ships in all Sea-Ports, of

of what Nation soever, publicly serving those who pay them, in the Nature of Transports. But it was a subtle and malicious Invention, to say, that the Owners who endeavour'd to struggle with such Proceedings, had their Ears cut off. And forasmuch as these Reports must have been rais'd with the View only of imposing upon the *British* Nation, and incensing them at the Expence of dismal Tragedies and visible Dangers, contrary to their own Interest, Time will sufficiently satisfy the World that these Pretexes are very wide of Truth.

'Tis not deny'd here, that peradventure the *English* Consul hath been arrested, and some other Reprials order'd, which surely did not happen before the Sea Fight: And to hear the Ministry of *London* talk, they will not only dispose of the Kingdoms and Provinces of others, but we must moreover calmly put up the Affront of their Insults, and sit down silently by the Violence of their Conduct.

The Complaint that is made of the Threatning to detain the Effects of the *English* Merchants falls to the Ground; for the King, notwithstanding Admiral *Bing* declar'd, upon his Arrival in the *Spanish* Sea, that he had Orders to employ the Force of his Squadron against the Enterprize of our Army in *Italy*, and that such a Detention would be look'd upon as the Consequences of so injurious a Declaration, and so groundless a Rupture, would not take the Advantage of that juncture of Affairs (whatever Reason and Right he had so to do) to deprive the *English* of the Treasures which they had dispers'd up and down in his Majesty's Dominions. On the contrary, such was his Benevolence, that he permitted them to gather in the same, always preferring to his own Satisfaction the common Welfare of a Nation with which he is in Friendship, and which hath no Share in the World in the evil Conduct of a small Number of particular Persons, who sacrifice the Nation to their ambitious Designs.

The Proofs which his Majesty hath given of his good Faith and sincere Friendship for the King of *Great Britain*, during the most sternly and perilous Part of his Reign, and the Treaty concluded with *Mr. Subb*, whence such great Advantages did accrue to

to that Monarch, that the Gratitude so natural to Sovereigns oblig'd him to speak of them to his Parliament, and to mention his Catholick Majesty, and the *Spaniards* as his fast Friends, faithful Allies, and Partakers in the Welfare and Tranquillity of the King of *Great Britain* and his Subjects, which were equally attack'd and disturb'd by the miserable Intestine Divisions in his Kingdom: These Tryals which his *Britannick* Majesty hath had of the Friendship and Generosity of the Catholick King, prove the contrary of what Mr. *Craggs* supposes in his said Letter, as if there had been a Talk of openly declaring in Favour of the Pretender.

Touching the Archduke's Renunciation of *Tuscany*; that Prince having never any Right to claim those Territories, 'tis an easy Matter to perswade him to yield them, or at least to abate of the wide-extended Projects for aggrandizing his Dominions.

The Ministry do acknowledge they wrote the Letter of the 20th of *August*, which Mr. *Craggs* refers to in his, and which the King order'd his Embassadors at *London* and the *Hague* to make publick, his Majesty being desirous to justify his Conduct in that Manner, and make appear that his Undertakings, the Raising of Troops, and Retrieving of his Navy, did not reach to the depriving the *English* Nation of the Commerce of the *Indies*, as the Ministers of *London* have endeavour'd to insinuate, to create a perfect Diffidence and entire Hatred between the two Nations. Besides, the repeated Proofs which the King of *Spain* hath given of his generous Courage toward the King of *Great Britain*, will, at all Events, convince and assure him, that the above-mention'd Letter was not publish'd with the Design of incensing his Subjects against his Government; tho' there be few who do not know, that the Maxims and particular Views of some of the *English* Ministers are prejudicial and destructive of the common Welfare.

As for Mr. *Craggs's* alledging in his Letter, that the King his Master doth not pretend to any other Trade for his Subjects with those of his Catholick Majesty, than what is stipulated for them by the Treaties, it cannot be thought that is the said Prince's Meaning; because he is not ignorant, that besides



besides what his Catholick Majesty so generously granted by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, he extended yet farther his Royal Benificence, by receding afterwards from the three explanatory Articles, and by enlarging considerably the *Assiento* Treaty for Slaves, the more to oblige the *English*. And the World will easily judge, from these two last Treaties, what a high Esteem his Catholick Majesty hath had for the King of *Great Britain* and his Subjects; and that, instead of thinking of new Imposts and Duties upon the Merchandizes of that Crown, he hath yielded, in Behalf of Commerce, all the Advantages granted to him by the Congress of *Utrecht*.

Meanwhile the Evil-minded of the *London* Ministry, have not only endeavour'd to create a Diffidence in the Minds of the *British* Nation, by insinuating that there are Manufactories and Work-Houses newly erected in *Spain*; but they have also with the same Artifice gone about to perswade foreign Powers, that it was indispensibly necessary to curb the Strength of that Monarchy, and to ruin its Fleet, which (according to them) was design'd to disturb the publick Tranquillity, and to deprive them all, without Distinction, of their Commerce.

For what concerne the Manufactures, it is notorious, that were they much more numerous than they are, they could never supply the Demand in *Spain*, and that the Commerce of the *Indies*, humanly speaking, cannot be maintain'd without foreign Merchandizes; partly, because the Inhabitants of these Kingdoms shew very little Inclination to carry on Manufactures; and, partly, because God, in his unsearchable Providence, hath given the *Indies* into the Protection of the *Spaniards*, to the End that all the People in the World should equally share in their Productions.

Concerning the naval Force, the King limited it to such a moderate Number, that Men can hardly (without Partiality) think them sufficient to convoy the Gallies, and guard the Coast of *Spain*; which is verity'd by the Account which the *English* publish'd of the Number and Rates of the Ships, as also the Place where they met them in the Sea-Fight off *Sicily*. And, lastly, I must observe to your Excellency,

cellency, that 'tis acknowledg'd that Mr. *Cragg*, by his vain Discourses, evades the Mention of the Violence committed against his Majesty's Squadron; and it appears that he requires it should be believ'd we were attack'd with Reason, upon no other Motive, than because we had before been unjustly threaten'd: But the Ministry of *London* must maintain the Treaties with due Honour and Good Faith, if they would preserve the King's Friendship, and the Commerce of the *British* Nation.

I am, &c.

The other Letter is as follows:

S I R,  
 JUST as I was thinking your Excellency might be inform'd of the unworthy Action committed by Admiral *Byng* against the King's Squadron, I received the Copy of the Letter your Excellency wrote upon that Subject to Mr. Secretary *Cragg*, to let him know, that after such an unexpected Hostility, you were oblig'd to refrain from the Functions of your pacifick Ministry; and that to maintain the King's Honour, and that of your Character, you must avoid all Manner of Intercourse. Having deliver'd the said Copy to his Majesty, he very much approv'd what your Excellency had written to him, and the Justness of the Expressions you made Use of, to expose the Breach of Faith of that Ministry, in relation to the over-hasty Proceedings of Admiral *Byng*, when nothing was pretended to but a Mediation, to facilitate the Project of Peace, or, at most, to defend the Territories actually in the Possession of the Archduke in *Italy*, when my Lord *Stanhope* was in *Spain*, at a small Distance from the Court, to propose to it Projects of Peace and a Suspension of Arms; and, lastly, in the very Instant when the King our Master, to give new Proofs of his Royal Circumspection, had order'd the Effects of the *English*, brought to *Cadix* in the last Flota which arriv'd there from the *Indies*, not to be touch'd, but that every Man of that Nation should have what respectively belong'd to him.

In Truth, no impartial Person can hear, without Surprise, that the Fleet of his *Britannick* Majesty, commanded by Sir *George Byng*, did, without any Provocation, Necessity, or Pretence, and forgetting the Title of peaceful Mediator, which his Master

' assumes to himself, together with the Interests of  
 ' Great Britain, attack the Fleet of Spain, only to  
 ' frustrate the Expedition against Sicily, after having  
 ' been at Naples to concert with Count Daun so base  
 ' an Action; receiv'd great Sums of Money, by way  
 ' of suppos'd Arrears; and, finally, after having come  
 ' near to Messina, and sent trusty Officers to confer  
 ' with the Commanders of the King's Army, and to  
 ' assure them that he would commit no Act of Hosti-  
 ' lity.

' The greatest Part of Europe is impatient to hear  
 ' how the British Ministry can justify themselves to  
 ' the World after so rash a Violence. If they re-  
 ' cur to the feeble Argument to say, That Admiral  
 ' Byng's Instructions were, to maintain the Neutra-  
 ' lity of Italy, who is ignorant, at this Time of Day,  
 ' that that Neutrality hath long been at an End? And  
 ' that the Princes who guaranty the Treaties of U-  
 ' trecht, are entirely free, and discharg'd from their  
 ' Guaranty? Every Body knows, that the Guaranty  
 ' of the Suspension of Arms in Italy was revok'd and  
 ' annul'd, not only by the scandalous Breaches which  
 ' the Austrians made in the ill-perform'd Evacuation  
 ' of Catalonia and Majorca, and by other subsequent  
 ' Outrages; but also by reason that the said Guaranty,  
 ' taken in its literal Sense, was no longer binding,  
 ' than till the Peace to be made with France; and the  
 ' Princes-Guarantees ought no otherwise to maintain  
 ' it, than by their mutual Offices.

' Upon these Grounds and Principles, every one  
 ' may make his own Reflections. And what will the  
 ' World say, to see that after the said Neutrality had,  
 ' for the Reasons above alledg'd, lain dormant for  
 ' four Years, the Ministry of London would gain re-  
 ' vive and support it, not by making Use of a  
 ' friendly Mediation, but by open Force, and the  
 ' scandalous Artifice of abusing our Security and Con-  
 ' fidence? This is so certain and indubitable, and  
 ' Admiral Byng found himself so perplex'd with the  
 ' Remorse of his injurious Conduct, that in the Ac-  
 ' count he gives of this naval Fight, knowing that  
 ' he had no Motive, nor reasonable Pretence to fall  
 ' foul on the Spaniards, he betakes himself to the  
 ' Shift of supposing (quite contrary to Truth) that  
 ' the King's Ships first ranged themselves in Line of  
 ' Battle, and fir'd upon the English. But that which



' is most surprizing is, that he lays it down for Fact,  
 ' that he sent Orders to his Ships not to fire upon the  
 ' *Spaniards*. If he had no Design to attack them, if  
 ' he had a Mind to treat them as Friends, why did  
 ' he pursue them from the Streights of the *Baro*  
 ' to the Heights of *Syracusa*? Why sent he four of  
 ' the best Sailors in his Fleet in all Haste, with Orders  
 ' to come up with the *Spaniards*? And why, lastly, did  
 ' he follow them with the rest, after having given  
 ' them his own Lights, unless it was, not to lose  
 ' Sight of the *Spanish* Fleet during the Night? This  
 ' Step, which is so extraordinary, was not certainly  
 ' taken with the View only of Saluting the *Spanish*  
 ' Fleet in so nice and critical a Juncture, after having  
 ' convoy'd near to *Rivoles* in *Calabria* a considerable  
 ' Part of the *Austrian* Infantry!

' The King, our Master, who looks upon the King  
 ' of *Great Britain* as a wise, a prudent, and moderate  
 ' Prince, who is not ignorant that the Success of  
 ' Arms is unconstant, who knows, in short, to how  
 ' many Accidents and Revolutions human Felicity is  
 ' expos'd, and that God takes the just Cause into his  
 ' Protection, cannot perswade himself that so enor-  
 ' mous an Act was executed by Order of his *Britan-*  
 ' *nick* Majesty; and the rather, because he thinks it  
 ' incompatible with the Gratitude of Sovereigns (and  
 ' especially of his *Britannick* Majesty) to forget so  
 ' easily the sincere Friendship whereof he hath receiv'd  
 ' so many Proofs from the King our Master, who  
 ' did not fail to shew it him during the most perilous  
 ' Time of his Reign, and the late Troubles in *Eng-*  
 ' *land*.

' Neither can his Majesty perswade himself, that a  
 ' Violence so unjust, and so generally disapprov'd,  
 ' was fomented by the *British* Nation; because she is  
 ' always a faithful Friend to her Allies, and grateful  
 ' to *Spain* for the Benefits she hath receiv'd from the  
 ' Liberalities and good Intentions of his *Catholick*  
 ' Majesty. On the other Side, well-grounded Expe-  
 ' rience convinces his said Majesty, that this Event  
 ' is the Effect of some restless and turbulent Spirits,  
 ' Enemies to Peace, to his *Britannick* Majesty's Ho-  
 ' nour, to the Nation's Quiet and Advantage, and  
 ' to the publick Good in general; and who are desi-  
 ' rous of raising their private Fortunes upon the com-

mon Ruin, at the Expence of this fatal Event and its unhappy Consequences.

All these Motives, together with that which his Majesty hath (though to his Sorrow) to see the ill Use which is made of his Favours; the Reflection upon the insulting his Honour by an Hostility and Offence so little expected; and the Consideration that after what hath newly happen'd, the Representation of your Excellency's Character and Ministry would be superfluous at that Court, and that you would be ill respected there, have oblig'd the King to order me to bid you in his Name to depart from England, as soon as your Excellency shall receive this Letter, his Majesty having so resolv'd. I am, &c.

These Letters seem design'd as an Answer to the Reason alledg'd by Mr. Secretary Craggs, in his above-mention'd Letter to the Marquess of Monteleone, in Justification of Sir George Byng's attacking the Spanish Fleet.

Meanwhile the Marquess de Beretti Landi continu'd his utmost Efforts to dissuade the States-General from entering into the Quadruple Alliance; and to that Purpose on the 12th of November he made a Speech to the Deputies of their High-Mightinesses, and at the same Time deliver'd to them the Translation of a Letter he had receiv'd from Cardinal Alberoni on that Subject; which two Pieces are as follows:

*Speech of the Marquess of Beretti Landi, to the Deputies of the States-General.*

HAVING receiv'd from his Eminence Cardinal Alberoni a Letter which he has done me the Honour to write in the Name of the King my Master, dated the 24th past, with an Order to communicate the Contents of it to the States-General, and to add to it the several Insinuations that are proper to the Subject, I thought I could not acquit my self better of this Duty, than by bringing to you, Gentlemen, the Translation of his Eminency's Letter. This Opportunity I joyfully embrace, because it gives me another of assuring you of my most humble Services. The Business in Hand, in this nice Conjecture, relates to the Interests and Conveniencies of his Catholick

Catholick Majesty, who thinks he has made all equitable People sensible enough of the Reasons of his Conduct, founded for most Part on the premeditated Violences of the Powers who had form'd the Project in question, and fancy'd to have it executed by Means hitherto unknown, and altogether surprizing. But it at the same Time relates to the Conveniencies, the Rights, and the Sovereign Independency of this Republick, since the said Powers, who solicit so hard in *Spain* to force the King to accept a monstrous Project, exercise no less Violence in *Holland*, pretending to get it sign'd by haughty and almost absolute Manners. The Remonstrances, that the Nation will lose the Trade of *Spain*, are regarded by their Ministers very superficially; only they promise a Reparation of your Losses, of which perhaps *England* is already in need for herself, by the considerable Losses which her Traders actually suffer. His Majesty is too sensible, and so ought also the Republick, to see themselves talk'd to in this despotical Manner. His Majesty shews his Royal Moderation in the Letter of M. the Cardinal, and what is to be hoped for from him, if he be address'd to in ways agreeable to a King of *Spain*. As to myself, I assure the States-General of my Veneration, and offer my self always as much as shall depend on me, to let you know, that I desire nothing more than, in serving the King my Master, to be able jointly to contribute to the Glory and Advantage of the Republick.

*The Translation of the Cardinal's Letter follows.*

S I R,  
THE King receives positive Advices, from different Parts, (tho' he does not believe it however) of the Design which this Republick has to enter into the same Measures and Engagements which the other Powers have contracted. His Majesty, who has always look'd upon Messieurs the States-General to be disinterested, and that their Conduct was accompany'd with Maxims pacifick and full of Justice, did believe, that in Consequence of such a laudable Proceeding, they would keep themselves impartial, and that they would look on the Alliance, to which they are solicited, with an Aversion, which a Project



ject so pernicious, so fatal, and so contrary to the publick Good, ought to inspire. The true Interests of the united Provinces consist (and who does not know it) to maintain themselves in a State of Neutrality, because, by this Means, they will draw upon themselves a general Applause during the present System and a Conjunction so critical.

The Princes themselves engag'd in the War, representing this Republick as the Arbitrer and the only Resource for reconciling the Minds and re-establishing the Tranquillity, will pressingly solicit its Friendship; and in this Manner, Messieurs, the States, will make the noblest Figure which they can wish for in this World, obtaining by their Indifference and Impartiality considerable Advantages for their Commerce, which the other Nations have lost by their false Conduct.

All Europe knows the Ends and Intentions of the Powers who have form'd the Project, and of those who adhere to it; but it would be too precipitant a Step, and an incomprehensible Blindness, which would subject the Republick, if one must forge the Term, to an intolerable Servitude, and render it in the Eyes of the rest of Europe a Slave to the Passions of another, if by acceding to this same Project they will contribute to the Aggrandizement of the too great Power of the Archduke, which, in Time, will become extremely fatal to the Rights and Liberties of the People.

His Majesty has heard with Pleasure the Advice which your Excellency sent him, that the Republick had nam'd a Minister to reside in his Court, with the Character of Embassador, and will attribute this Nomination to the Effect of the sage Resolutions which Messieurs the States-General are accusom'd to take; so much the more, that by the Arrival of their Embassador, the Amity and good Correspondence betwixt the King our Master and the United Provinces is augmented, and an Overture given to some Treaty of Accommodation betwixt the discontented Princes, crowning by Consequence this Republick with the infallible Glory of having given Peace to Europe, & voiding by their amiable Mediation the fatal Events of an unhappy War.

On the contrary, if she suffer herself to be carry'd away with the Instances of Sovereigns determin'd

min'd to oppose the just Cause of the King, the will not only tread under Foot all Equity and Reason, but, to his Majesty's Grief, will be wanting to the Amity and Acknowledgment which she owes to so great a Monarch, her undoubted Friend, and will always be expos'd to the Reproach which will unavoidably follow such a Step, that will be taken for the greatest Affront done to *Spain*.

As the King desires more and more to cultivate the most perfect Union with this Republick, whose Glory and Advantage he has at Heart, his Majesty orders me to tell your Excellency, That you exhort Messieurs the States-General, in his Name, to depart and keep at a Distance from the Insinuations and particular Ends of the Ministers of the Powers who call themselves Mediators, since their View is intirely contrary to the prudent Maxims of the Republick, whom your Excellency will assure, that his Majesty is willing to continue his Amity; and for cultivating it, and for the Intention besides very well known to advance the publick Tranquillity, he is dispos'd to contribute towards it very willingly, hearkening to the Republick by all the Means possible and allowable to his Honour.

### *The War in Italy.*

IN our last we left the *Spaniards* laying Siege to the Citadel of *Messina*, which held out 'till the 29th of *September*, and then surrender'd upon Terms: The Manner of it was as follows: The *Spaniards* having ruin'd all the Defences of that Fortrefs, did not think fit, however, to storm the Place, till they had made themselves Masters of a Post, by Means of which the Besieg'd held a Communication with the Sea, and receiv'd from Time to Time some Reinforcements from *Naples*: Having therefore taken that Post, the *Piemontese* Garrison, seeing themselves in almost certain Danger of obtaining no Quarter, if the Place should be taken by Storm, propos'd to the Imperial Officers to surrender; but these last would first try the Success of a Sally, in order to drive the Besiegers from the Post they had lately taken; accordingly on the

25th of September they sally'd out, to the Number of 400 Men, and vigorously attack'd the Spaniards, who, after some Resistance, gave Way a little, to draw the Enemy farther from the Place, that they might the better cut off their Retreat. By this Stratagem, they soon surrounded the Germans, with their Commander, kill'd seven of their Officers, and about 40 Soldiers, and took all the rest Prisoners. Immediately the Pientenze Governor hung out a white Flag, and demanded to capitulate, offering to surrender upon Articles, which were agreed to, and are as follows:

1. The Garrison shall march out of the Gate delli Greci, to pass to Reggio by Sea, with their Arms, Baggage, Drums beating, Colours flying, twelve Pieces of Cannon, and four Mortars. Granted, except the Cannon and Mortars.

2. In Consideration of the above-mention'd Condition, the Place shall be surrender'd in the Condition 'tis now in, without being damag'd by Fire, or Mines, or the Cisterns broken. The Fort of St. Salvador shall be deliver'd up at the same Time, in the Condition 'tis in at present, and the Ships in like manner. Granted.

3. That the necessary Time shall be allow'd for the Troops and Baggage to leave the Place. If the Wind should be contrary, or any unforeseen Accident should happen, which might oblige the Garrison to delay the Execution of this Capitulation, they shall be permitted, in that Case, to make Use of the Provisions of the Magazines for their Subsistence. Two Days are allow'd for the Evacuation of the Citadel and Fort of St. Salvador; and if that Time be not sufficient for embarking, the Garrison shall encamp on the Island, delivering up the Citadel and Fort St. Salvador to the King's Troops. The necessary Provisions for subsisting the said Garrison, during their Stay, shall be allow'd them.

4. As soon as the Capitulation shall be settled, the Gate del Principale shall be deliver'd up to the Besiegers, and that of delli Greci shall be kept 'till the entire Evacuation, on Condition, that no Person shall be permitted to enter the Place, except the appointed Commissaries, to whom the Magazines of Provision and Ammunition, and the Royal Effects shall bona fide be given up. Granted, on Condition, That to Morrow, the 30th Instant, before Noon, the King's Troops be put into Possession of a Gate, by which they may commodiously enter

to take Possession of the Citadel. At the same Time, all the Magazines of Provisions and Ammunition shall be deliver'd bona fide to his Majesty's Commissary of War; to which End, the Keys shall be put in his Hands.

5. No Insults shall be offer'd to the Garrison, and the Soldiers and Peasants shall be forbid'd to pass into the Island of St. Rainero. Granted.

6. In case there be any sick or wounded Imperial or Piedmontese Soldiers, who are not in a Condition to be transported, the Spaniards shall oblige themselves to take Care of them, and to send them to Reggio when they shall be in a Condition to be transported, and the Charges shall be paid. Granted.

7. 'Tis demand'd, that the Spaniards give up the forty four Soldiers, who were left in the Hospital of Messina. Granted, except those who have taken Party.

8. That Count Ricci, who was chief of the Council, and staid in Messina, shall be permitted to pass to Reggio with his Family. Granted.

9. That while the Capitulation is settling, the Works shall not be carry'd on by either Party, nor shall any go out of the Trenches to view the Works. Granted.

10. When the whole shall be executed, the Citadel and Fort St. Salvador shall be deliver'd up, as has been said, and the Hostages on both Sides restor'd. At the same Instant that the Gate of the Citadel is deliver'd, the Magazines of Salvador, as well of Provisions as Ammunition, shall be deliver'd to his Majesty's Commissary of War appointed to receive them; and the Enemy's Troops shall evacuate both the Citadel and Fort, to make Room for the King's.

11. The Sicilians who are in the Citadel, shall be permitted to retire into the Kingdom, or to Reggio, as they shall chuse, without being molested in any manner. Granted.

12. That all the Prisoners taken during the Siege, shall be restor'd by each Party. All the Prisoners taken during the Siege shall be mutually return'd, except those who have list'd.

Camp at Messina, Sept. 29, 1718.

The Marquis de Lede,  
The Marquis d'Andorne.



After the Reduction of *Messina*, the *Spaniards* attack'd *Melazzo*, of which Place the Imperialists had taken Possession, with Consent of the *Piemontese* Governor, who had deliver'd it to them. But before the *Spaniards* could lay formal Siege to it, the *Germans*, who had from Time to Time been transported from *Reggio*, and landed near *Melazzo*, advanc'd with a Body of 6000 Foot, and 800 Horse, and on the 15th of *October*, before Break of Day, attack'd the *Spaniards* in their Camp: At the first Onset, the Advantage was on the Side of the *Germans*; for the left Wing of the *Spaniards* being surpriz'd, gave Ground, and even began to fly; but the Right sustain'd the Shock, and gave Time to the Left to rally; who returning to the Charge, the *Germans* were driven out of the Camp: Part of them made their Way back into the Town, some were drown'd in the Sea, endeavouring to regain their Transports, and in the whole Action their Loss amounted to 1600 Men kill'd or wounded; and 600 were taken Prisoners, among whom was General *Veterani*, who commanded them, and 37 Officers. On the Side of the *Spaniards*, two Colonels were kill'd, several Officers wounded, and between 5 and 600 Soldiers wounded or slain.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

### The Proceedings of the Parliament.

ON the 11th of *November* the Parliament being met, according to their last Prorogation, the King came to the House of Peers, and the Commons being sent for, and attending, his Majesty was pleas'd to deliver the following Speech into the Hands of the Lord Chancellor, who read the same to both Houses:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since your last *Recess*, I have, by the Blessing of Almighty God, concluded such Terms and Conditions of Peace and Alliance between the greatest Princes of Europe, as will, in all human Appearance, induce others to follow their Example, and make any Attempts to disturb the publick Tranquillity not only dangerous but impracticable.

These

*These Engagements, I am persuaded, will be so much the more agreeable to all my good Subjects, as they bind the contracting Powers to Support the Succession to these Kingdoms in my Family, to which some were not at all, and others not so fully bound by any former Treaties.*

*During the whole Course of these Negotiations, a most strict Regard has been had to the Interest of Spain; and better Conditions have been stipulated for that King, than were insisted upon in his Behalf even at the Treaty of Utrecht; but the War in Hungary (which by our Mediation is since happily ended) having tempted the Court of Spain unjustly to attack the Emperor, and the Hopes they have since conceiv'd of raising Disturbances in Great Britain, France, and elsewhere, having encourag'd them to believe, that we should not be able to act in Pursuance of our Treaties, for the Defence of the Dominions invaded by them, nor even to support those other essential and necessary Conditions of the Treaty of Utrecht, which provide against the great Monarchies of Europe being at any Time hereafter united under one Sovereign, they have not only persisted in such a notorious Violation of the publick Peace and Tranquility, but have rejected all our amicable Proposals, and have broke thro' their most solemn Engagements for the Security of our Commerce.*

*To vindicate therefore the Faith of our former Treaties, as well as to maintain those which we have lately made, and to protect and defend the Trade of my Subjects, which has in every Branch been violently and unjustly oppress'd, it became necessary for our naval Forces to check their Progress. It was reasonable to hope, that the Success of our Arms, the repeated Offers of Friendship, which I have never ceas'd to make in the most pressing Manner, and the Measures taken in Concert with the Emperor and the most Christian King, to restore the publick Tranquility, would have produc'd a better Disposition in the Court of Spain; but I have receiv'd Informations, that instead of listening to our reasonable Terms of Accommodation, that Court has lately given Orders at all the Ports of Spain and of the West-Indies, to fit out Privateers, and to take our Ships.*

*I am persuaded that a British Parliament will enable me to resent such Treatment, as becomes me, and it is with Pleasure that I can assure you of the ready and friendly Resolutions of our good Brother the Regent of France, to concur and join with me in the most vigorous Measures.*

The firm Confidence I repose in the Affection of my People, together with my earnest Desire to ease them of every Charge not absolutely necessary, determin'd me, immediately after the Exchange of the Ratifications of our great Alliance, to make a very considerable Reduction of our Land-Forces; nor could I better express, than by so doing, how little we apprehend the Attempts of our Enemies to disturb the Peace of my Kingdoms, even tho' Spain should think fit to continue some Time in War. Our naval Force employ'd in Concert with our Allies, will, I trust in God, soon put a happy End to the Troubles which the ambitious Views of that Court have begun, and secure to my Subjects the Execution of the many Treaties in Force relating to our Commerce.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must desire you to grant me such Supplies, as will enable me to carry on the Service of the Year. I have given Orders to have the proper Estimates laid before you, whereby you will perceive I have reduc'd the Expence as much as our Circumstances can well admit. I have the Pleasure to observe to you, that the Funds appropriated for sinking the publick Debts, have answer'd above Expectation. I must however recommend to you to consider of proper Methods for improving them, by preventing the Frauds and Abuses daily committed in the publick Revenues, not doubting in all your Proceedings you will have that Regard to the inviolable Preservation of the publick Credit, which may quiet the Minds of all those that have trusted to Parliamentary Engagements.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

There never was a Time when your Unanimity, your Vigour, and Dispatch, were more necessary to so many good Ends, as those we have now in View. I have done my Part. It remains with you to give the last Finishing to this great Work. Our Friends and our Enemies, both at Home and Abroad, are waiting the Event of your Resolutions: And I dare promise my self that the first have nothing to apprehend, nor the others to hope from your Conduct in this important Juncture, who have, during the whole Course of my Reign, given such lively Proofs of your Zeal and Affection to my Person, and of your Love to your Country.

The King being withdrawn, and the Commons return'd to their House, the Lord Carteret mov'd for an Address of Thanks to his Majesty for his Care in preserving

serving the publick Peace, and the Ballance of Power in *Europe*; for the considerable Reduction of the Land Forces; and for having obtain'd so great and farther Securities of the Succession to these Kingdoms in his Royal Family; as also to congratulate the seasonable Success of his Majesty's naval Forces; and to assure him, that the House would support him in the Pursuit of those prudent and necessary Measures he had taken to secure the Trade and Quiet of these Kingdoms, and the Tranquillity of *Europe*: He was seconded by the Lord *Tenham*, but several Lords excepted at some Expressions in the said Motion, which occasion'd a warm Debate, that lasted from three till eight in the Evening. All the Peers that spoke were unanimous in acknowledging his Majesty's Royal Care and incessant Endeavours to preserve the Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe*, and his tender Regard for the Ease and Interest of his Subjects: But several Lords represented at the same Time, That the Congratulating his Majesty upon the seasonable Success of his naval Forces, and the Promise to support him in the Pursuit of those prudent and necessary Measures he had taken, was, in Effect, to approve a Sea-Fight, which might be attended with dangerous Consequences, and give the Sanction of that August Assembly to Measures, which, upon Examination, might appear either to clash with the Laws of Nations and former Treaties, or to be prejudicial to the Trade of *Great Britain*, That according to the constant Usage of that House, they ought to proceed with the utmost Caution and maturest Deliberation in an Affair, wherein the Honour as well as the Interest of the Nation were so highly concern'd; and a Peer insisted That before they approv'd the Sea-Fight, they ought to be satisfy'd whether it happen'd before or after the Signing of the quadruple Alliance, and therefore mov'd for an Address that *Sir George Byng's* Instructions might be laid before the House. To this it was answer'd by a noble Earl in the Ministry, that there was no manner of Occasion for such an Address, since by his Majesty's Command he had already laid before the House the Treaties of which the late Sea-Fight was a Consequence, and in particular the Treaty for a Defensive Alliance between the Emperor and his Majesty, made at *Westminster* the 25th of May, 1716; and the Treaty of Alliance



ance for restoring and settling the publick Peace, sign'd at *London* the 22d of *July* O. S. After this his Lordship insisted on the Justice and Equity of those Treaties, which were mainly calculated to preserve, restore, and settle the Peace of *Europe*, by rendering the Treaty of *Utrecht* effectual; particularly in preventing the Union of the two great Monarchies of *France* and *Spain* under one Sovereign, and in securing the Succession of these Kingdoms in his Majesty's Royal Family. At the same Time his Lordship endeavour'd to shew, That the Court of *Spain* had violated the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and acted against the publick Faith, in attacking the Emperor's Dominions, while he was engag'd in a War against the Enemies of Christendom, and in what Manner they had rejected his Majesty's friendly Offices and repeated Offers of mediating an Accommodation between the Emperor and his Catholic Majesty: To which Purpose his Lordship gave the House an Account of his late Journey to and Negotiations in *Spain*. He added, that it was high Time for *Great Britain* to check the Growth of the naval Power of *Spain*, in order to protect and secure the Trade of the *British* Subjects, which had been violently oppress'd by the *Spaniards*; to which Purpose several Letters were read, concluding, that both with relation to *Sir George Byng's* Instructions, and in all other Respects, in this whole Affair his Majesty had acted by the Advice of his Privy-Council; that he was one of that Number, and he thought it an Honour to have advis'd his Majesty to these Measures, because he was perswaded they entirely agreed with the Honour and Interest of his Country; that he doubted not, but, upon the strictest Examination, those Measures would be approv'd by all true *Englishmen*, and that he was ready to answer for them with his Head. Notwithstanding this Speech, several Peers urg'd, that the making War before the declaring of it, was a manifest Violation of the Laws of Nations; and others rais'd less material Objections: Yet the Question being put upon the Lord *Carteret's* Motion, it was carry'd in the Affirmative by 83 Votes against 50. The principal Speakers on the Court Side, were the Lords *Carteret* and *Tenham*, and the Earls of *Sunderland* and *Stanhope*; and on the other Side, the Dukes of *Buckingham*, *Devonshire*, and *Argyle*, the  
Earls

Earls of Nottingham, Cowper, Orford, and Illy, the Lords North and Gray and Harcourt.

The Commons being return'd to their House, Mr. Speaker reported to them his Majesty's Speech; after which Mr. Secretary Craggs, by his Majesty's Command, presented to the House Copies, in *Latin*, of several Treaties, with a List of them; and the Title of the Copies of the said Treaties were read, and then the Lord Hinchinbroke mov'd, 'That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, returning the Thanks of the House for his most gracious Speech from the Throne, and for the many and great Instances which he has therein given to his People, of his constant Endeavours for their Security and Welfare. That the House has intire Satisfaction in those Measures which his Majesty has already taken for Strengthening the Protestant Succession, and establishing a lasting Tranquillity in *Europe*; and particularly in relation to the Crown of *Spain*; and is resolv'd to enable his Majesty, in Concurrence with his Allies, not only to resent the Injuries that Crown has already done to the Commerce of these Kingdoms, in Breach of the Treaties subsisting between the two Nations, but will likewise support him, in the most vigorous and effectual Manner, in such farther Measures as his Majesty shall judge necessary to compleat the publick Tranquillity, and to check the Growth of that naval Power, which must otherwise prove dangerous to the Trade of these Kingdoms, and to the Repose of *Europe*.' The Lord Hinchinbroke was seconded by the Lord Tyrconnel; but the Motion being oppos'd by several Members, there was a very warm Debate, from three till eight in the Evening. The principal Speakers on both Sides were as follows, viz. For the Motion, The Lords Hinchinbroke, and Tyrconnel, Sir David Dalrymple, Mr. Lechmere, Mr. Secretary Craggs, Mr. John Smith, Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Sir Gilfrid Lawson, Mr. Hampden, Mr. Aylaby, Mr. Bosawen, Mr. Bladen, Serjeant Mead. Against Part of the Motion, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Haysbam, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Snell, Mr. Hungerford, Mr. Herne, Sir Joseph Jekyll, Mr. Cowper, Sir William Wyndham, Mr. Shippen, the Lord Moleworth, General Ross.

The opposing Party strenuously objected against the Words *entire Satisfaction in those Measures which his Majesty had already taken*. In order therefore to have these

these Words left out of the Address to be presented to his Majesty, it was alledg'd in the first Place, That it was unparliamentary and unprecedented, on the first Day of a Session to enter upon Particulars; that the Business in Question being of the highest Importance, *viz. Peace or War* deserv'd the maturest Deliberation; that before they approv'd of the Measures that had been taken, they ought to examine the Treaties, and the Reasons on which those Measures were founded, which must need take up some Time; and therefore they ought, for the<sup>e</sup> present, according to the usual Custom, to content themselves with returning his Majesty their Thanks for his most gracious Speech, with general Assurances of their Zeal and Affection for his Majesty's Person and Government, and then appoint a Day to take the said Speech into Consideration.

To this it was answer'd, That tho' all Applications from this House to the Throne differ'd according to the various Circumstances of Affairs, yet there were not wanting Precedents to support the Expressions excepted against, of which some Instances were produc'd: That the Measures that had been taken, were grounded on Treaties that had been laid before them, and which might be examin'd into as soon as the House thought fit; but that it was necessary, at this critical Juncture, when the Eyes of all *Europe* were fix'd on this Parliament, early to come to a vigorous Resolution, which would not fail having its due Weight abroad.

This was warmly oppos'd<sup>d</sup> by a Member, who, among other Things, urg'd, That it was against the common Rules of Prudence, and the Methods of proceeding in that House, to approve a Thing before they knew what it was: That he was thoroughly convinc'd of, and as ready as any Person in that Assembly, to acknowledge his Majesty's great Care for the general Peace of *Europe*, and the Interest of *Great Britain*; but that the giving Sanction, in the Manner propos'd, to the late Measures, could have no other View, than to screen Ministers, who were conscious of having done something amiss, and, who having begun a War against *Spain*, would now make it the Parliament's War: Concluding, That instead of an entire Satisfaction, they ought to shew their entire Dissatisfaction with a Conduct that was contrary to the

the Laws of Nations, and a Breach of solemn Treaties.

Then Mr. Secretary *Craggs* gave the House an Account of the Measures which the King and his Ministers had pursu'd for restoring and securing the Tranquility of *Europe*, and said, in particular, 'That upon that View a Treaty of defensive Alliance between his Majesty and the Emperor had been sign'd in May 1716, and by that very Gentleman, then in a high Station, who now excepted against these Measures: That, at the same Time, his Majesty sincerely desir'd and endeavour'd to maintain a perfect Friendship with the King of *Spain*, and had even propos'd a defensive Alliance to him, before he made one with any other Power: That notwithstanding the Engagements his Majesty was under to guaranty the Neutrality of *Italy*, and to defend the Emperor in the Possession of his Dominions, which, upon the Invasion of *Sardinia*, might have justify'd his Majesty's assisting his Imperial Majesty against *Spain*; yet the King chose rather to act as a friendly Mediator, and, in Concert with the Regent of *France*, endeavour'd to find out Means of reconciling the Interests of the Emperor and of the King of *Spain*, as the only Way to put a Stop to the War that threaten'd *Italy*, and in which all *Europe* might be involv'd: That the Catholick King was often solicited by the *British* Ministers, at *Madrid*, to concur with his Majesty's good Intentions, and to give such Instructions to the *Spanish* Minister here, as would put it in his Majesty's Power to stand up for the Interest and Advantages of *Spain* in the ensuing Negotiations: That the Catholick King having declin'd to concert Measures with *Great Britain*, and demanding, in general, Satisfaction for the Breaches he pretended the Emperor had made upon the Treaty of *Utrecht*, a Ballance of Power in *Europe*, and the Security and Liberty of the Princes and States of *Italy*, all that his Majesty, with the Regent's Assistance, could do, was to obtain of the Emperor such Conditions as were thought most agreeable to his Catholick Majesty, to wit, an absolute Renunciation to the Monarchy of *Spain* and the *Indies*, and a very considerable Settlement in *Italy* for a Prince of *Spain*, particularly the Great Duchy of *Tuscany*: That as the Emperor's Pretensions to *Sicily* were the principal



pal Reasons of his opposing the Treaty of *Utrecht*, from which he could not afterwards be brought off by the Treaty at *Baden*, it became necessary, towards an Accommodation, to dispose of that Island in Favour of his Imperial Majesty, of whom, upon that Consideration, his Majesty and the Regent of *France* obtain'd the Disposition of *Sardinia* in Favour of the King of *Sicily*: That these were the principal Articles of the Treaty of Alliance, for restoring and settling the publick Peace, commonly call'd the *Quadruple Alliance*, which was a long while depending, and at last sign'd here; on the 22d of *July*, 1718: That in Order to support the Views of this Treaty, and to add Weight to the Endeavours to restore the Tranquility of *Europe*, his Majesty acquainted the Commons, toward the End of the last Session of Parliament, that he intend'd to employ a Naval Force when it should be necessary: Whereupon this House unanimously resolv'd to return his Majesty their Thanks for his unwearied Endeavours to promote the Welfare of his Kingdoms, and to preserve the Tranquility of *Europe*, and to assure his Majesty, that they would make good such Exceedings of Men for the Sea Service of the Year 1718, as his Majesty, in his Royal Wisdom, should find necessary to obtain those desirable Ends: That this unanimous Resolution undoubtedly imply'd an intire Satisfaction in the Measures his Majesty was, at that Time, concerting for preserving the Tranquility of *Europe*; and if an Action has since happen'd, in Consequence of those Measures, this cannot, with any Justice, be call'd the War of the Ministers; but rather the War of the Parliament: That, however, it was not with Design of making War, but only of restoring Peace, that his Majesty sent a strong Squadron into the *Mediterranean*: That, pursuant to this View, as soon as Sir *George Byng* reach'd the Coast of *Spain*, he wrote a Letter to that King, desiring him to accept his Majesty's Mediation, and to desist from the Hostilities already begun; offering him his Service, either to withdraw his Troops, or even to assist him, in case the Emperor should not consent to a Suspension of Arms; which the Admiral propos'd while an Accommodation should be negotiated: That the *Spaniard*, having with Haughtiness reject'd his Majesty's repeated amicable Proposals, and not only per-

sisted

' sisted in the Violation of the publick Peace, by the  
 ' Invasion of *Sicily*, but likewise broke through most  
 ' solemn Treaties, for the Security of our Trade, it be-  
 ' came necessary for his Majesty's Naval Forces to  
 ' check these insolent and violent Proceedings, as well  
 ' to maintain the Faith of his Majesty's Engagements,  
 ' and prevent the Consequences of this War, as to pro-  
 ' tect and defend the Trade of the *British* Subjects,  
 ' which labours under the heaviest Hardships and Diffi-  
 ' culties: To confirm this last Particular, Mr. *Bladen*  
 ' produc'd a List of many Merchant Ships, taken or de-  
 ' tain'd by the *Spaniards*. Then several Members on the  
 ' opposing Side, having, like Mr. *Walpole*, made so-  
 ' lemn Professions of their Duty and Affection to the  
 ' King, and of their Readiness to acknowledge his Ma-  
 ' jesty's Royal Care and constant Endeavours for the  
 ' Security and Welfare of his People, and the Tranqui-  
 ' lity of *Europe*; but distinguishing between his Ma-  
 ' jesty and his Ministers, and shewing an Unwillingness  
 ' to approve the Measures pursu'd by the latter, till  
 ' the Treaties on which those Measures were founded,  
 ' had been fully and maturely examin'd. Mr. *Craggs*  
 ' readily admitted of the Distinction between the King  
 ' and his Ministers, adding, ' That he observ'd, with  
 ' a great deal of Pleasure, how unanimous they were  
 ' all for the King, and that he should be extremely  
 ' sorry if the Ministers should be the Occasion of any  
 ' Delay in the House's expressing their Duty and Affe-  
 ' ction to his Majesty: That he own'd Ministers were  
 ' not infallible; That he had the Honour to be one of  
 ' his Majesty's Servants, and had gone as great Lengths  
 ' as any in the Measures that had been taken: But  
 ' that he was so positive, that in the Course of this  
 ' whole Affair nothing had been done that was not  
 ' entirely consistent with the Faith of Treaties, and  
 ' the Honour and Interest of the Nation, that he durst  
 ' promise, both for himself and the rest of the Mi-  
 ' nisters, that if the House came into this Vote, which  
 ' he thought of the highest Importance at this critical  
 ' Juncture, no manner of Advantage would be taken  
 ' of it to palliate any Faults, which, through human  
 ' Frailty, might have been committed; and that for  
 ' his own Part he was ready to undergo the severest  
 ' Examination, whenever the House should think fit  
 ' to enquire into the Conduct of the Ministry: Upon  
 ' the whole Matter, the Question being at last put, up-

on the Lord *Hinchinbroke's* Motion, it was carry'd in the Affirmative by 216 Votes against 155.

The next Day the Lord *Carteret* reported to the House of Lords their Address of Thanks and Congratulation, which was approv'd; but some Peers enter'd their Dissent against it. The same Day the Commons having made the usual Orders; the Lord *Hinchinbroke* reported the Address from the Committee of which his Lordship was Chairman, and it was unanimously approv'd.

Nov. 13. The Lords and Commons severally, and each in a Body, presented their respective Addresses to his Majesty, who receiv'd them both very graciously. The Address of the Lords is as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign.

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal<sup>st</sup> Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, do return your Majesty our humble Thanks for your most gracious Speech from the Throne, and desire to express to your Majesty the true Sense this House has of your Care in preserving the publick Peace and the just Balance of Power in Europe; and of the tender Regard which your Majesty has shewn for the Trade of your Subjects. The considerable Reduction of the Land-Forces, which your Majesty has made at this Time, must fully satisfy all your Subjects, that you will never desire the Continuance of more Troops than what are absolutely necessary for their Safety. In a most particular Manner we thank your Majesty for having obtain'd such great and farther Securities of the Succession to these Kingdoms in your Royal Family, as will, under the Blessing of God, perpetuate the Protestant Succession undisturb'd. We most heartily congratulate your Majesty upon the seasonable Success of your naval Forces; and beg Leave to assure your Majesty, That this House will, to the utmost of their Power, stand by and support your Majesty in the vigorous Pursuit of those prudent and necessary Measures your Majesty has taken, to secure the Trade and Quiet of these Kingdoms and the Tranquillity of Europe.

His Majesty's Answer.

My Lords,

I Thank you for this Address, so full of Duty to me and Affection to your Country. I can't doubt but my Endeavours for the Happiness of my People, and the Tranquillity

*Tranquillity of Europe, will attain the End propos'd, when the Enemies to both shall see me supported therein by this House with so much Warmth and Zeal.*

The Commons Address is as follows.

May it please your Majesty,

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, do return our most sincere and unfeigned Thanks to your Sacred Majesty for your most gracious Speech from the Throne, and for the many and great Instances which you have been graciously pleas'd therein to give your People of your constant Endeavours for their Security and Welfare.

It is with the greatest Pleasure that we have this Opportunity to assure your Majesty, that we have entire Satisfaction in those Measures which you have already taken, for Strengthening the Protestant Succession to the Crown of these Realms in your own Family, and for establishing a lasting Tranquillity in Europe, and particularly in relation to the Crown of Spain; and we are resolv'd on our Parts, to the utmost of our Power, to enable your Majesty, in Concurrence with your Allies, not only to resent the Injuries which that Crown has already done to the Commerce of these Kingdoms, in Breach of the Treaties subsisting between the two Nations, but will likewise support your Majesty in the most vigorous and effectual Manner, in such farther Measures as in your great Wisdom you shall judge necessary to compleat the publick Tranquillity, and to check the Growth of that naval Power, which must otherwise prove dangerous to the Trade of these Kingdoms, and the Repose of Europe.

We should be wanting in our Duty to your Majesty, if we did not express, in the most affectionate Manner, the great Sense we have of that Instance of your tender Concern for the Ease of your People, in the farther Reduction which you have made of your Land-Forces; which must be accepted by all your good Subjects, as the strongest Proof of your Wisdom and Goodness.

We crave Leave to concur with your Sacred Majesty, That Regard must always be had to the inviolable Preservation of the publick Credit, for the Quiet and just Security of all those who have trusted to Parliamentary Engagements.

And do farther assure your Majesty, That we will, by our Conduct in this important Juncture, give your Majesty, and the whole World, all imaginable Proofs of our Zeal and



and inviolable Duty and Affection to your Person and Government, and of our Love to our Country.

### His Majesty's Answer.

Gentlemen,

I am extremely sensible of the Duty and Affection you express to my Person: Your Vigour and Resolution to support me will encourage our Friends, and, by the Blessing of God, enable me to defeat the ill-grounded Hopes of our Enemies; as I am perswaded the Necessity and Usefulness of your Proceedings will be approv'd by the Event, I do return you my very hearty Thanks for this loyal Address.

The same Day the Lords adjourn'd to the 18th, and Mr. Secretary Graggs presented to the Commons Translations of several Treaties of Alliance, and Articles belonging thereunto, the Copies of which Treaties and Articles, in *Latin*, were presented to the House two Days before; and the said Translations were order'd to lie on the Table.

Nov. 14. Mr. Speaker having reported his Majesty's Answer to their Address, the House proceeded to take into Consideration his Majesty's most gracious Speech; and a Motion being made for a Supply, the same was refer'd to a Committee of the whole House. Accordingly, on the 15th, the Commons, in a grand Committee, having consider'd of the said Motion, unanimously resolv'd, that a Supply be granted to his Majesty: Which Resolution was, on the 17th, reported by Mr. Porter, and unanimously agreed to by the House; and then the several Accounts and Estimates of the Deficiencies of the Grants for the Year 1718, and of Parliamentary Funds; of the Ordinary of the Navy, with the Half-Pay of the Officers of the Navy and Marines; of the Charges for Guards, and Garrisons, and Land-Forces; of the Charge of the Office of Ordnance for the Land Service; with a List of the Regimental and Warrant Officers in Half-Pay; all for the Year 1719: As also, an Estimate of the Navy, and an Account how the Money granted for extraordinary Repairs of the Navy in the last Session of Parliament had been laid out; an Estimate of what would be farther necessary for extraordinary Repairs of the Navy for the Year 1719; and, lastly, an Account how the Money given for the Service of the Year 1718 had been dispos'd, were order'd to be laid before

before the House, and resolv'd, That an Address for that Purpose should be presented to his Majesty: The said Address being presented, was readily comply'd with, and on the 16th and 17th the proper Officers laid before the Commons the Accounts and Estimates above-mention'd; besides which, the Commons resolv'd to address his Majesty, for an Account of all Ships in Sea-Pay, which had been employ'd in the Year 1718, in what Stations, with the several Complements or Numbers of Men Borne or muster'd in the said Ships.

Nov. 19, The Commons, in a Committee of the whole House, consider'd of the Supply granted to his Majesty, and came to the following Resolutions; 1<sup>st</sup>, That thirteen thousand five Hundred Men be allow'd for the Sea Service, for the Year 1719, beginning from the first Day of January 1719. 2<sup>dly</sup>, That four Pounds *per* Man, *per* Month, be allow'd for maintaining the said 13500 Men, for thirteen Months, including the Ordinance for Sea Service, which amounts to the Sum of 702,000 *l.* and, 3<sup>dly</sup>, That the Sum of 187,638 *l.* 17 *s.* and 6 *d.* be granted for the Ordinary of the Navy, for the Year 1719.

These Resolutions were the next Day reported and agreed to by the House; and on the 21<sup>st</sup>, the Commons, in a grand Committee, consider'd farther of the Supply, and resolv'd to grant the following Sums, *viz.*

To make good the Deficiency of the Year 1718. } 502,719 10 10

To make good the Deficiency of the Fund, commonly call'd the general Fund, for raising 724,849 *l.* } 102,092 13 11  
6 *s.* 10 *d.*

For the extraordinary Repairs of the Navy, for the Year 1719. } 88,494 10 00

For 12,435 effective Men for Guards and Garrisons, and other Land Forces in Great Britain, Jersey, and Guernsey, for the Year, 1719. } 526,964 11 08

For the Forces and Garrisons in the Plantations, Minorca, and Gibraltar, and for Provisions for the Garrisons of Annapolis Royal, and Placentia, for the Year 1719. } 147,672 05 10

In all ————— 1,167,943 12 04

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Brought over	1,367,943	12	04½
Which, together with the Sums granted before for 3,500 Seamen,	702,000	00	00
<i>viz.</i>			
And for the Ordinary of the Navy, <i>viz.</i>	187,638	17	06½
Amount to	2,257,582	09	10½

Nov. 24. Mr. Sloper, from the Paymaster of his Majesty's Forces, presented to the Commons an Account of what Money is sav'd by the Reduction and Disbandment of his Majesty's Forces in the Year 1718, and of some Disbursements occasion'd thereby, which are propos'd to be borne out of the said Saving. And then the House went into a grand Committee to consider of Ways and Means to raise the Supply, and came to these two Resolutions, 1st, That three Shillings in the Pound, and no more, be rais'd in the Year 1719, upon Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Pensions, Offices, and Personal Estates, in that Part of Great Britain call'd England, Principality of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed; and a proportionable Cess in that Part of Great Britain call'd Scotland: 2dly, That the Duties of Malt, Mum, Cyder, and Perry, be continu'd from the 23d Day of June 1719, to the 24th Day of June 1720. These Resolutions being the next Day reported, were agreed to by the House, and Bills order'd to be brought in upon the same; which Mr. Farrer did accordingly on the 26th and 27th. So that a greater Dispatch was never made by any former Parliament, with Relation to the Supply, and the Ways and Means to raise it.

On the 26th, the Commons appointed a Committee to enquire what Laws are expir'd, or near expiring, and to report which of them are fit to be reviv'd or continu'd; and the next Day, upon the Report made by Mr. Controller, of the Petition of the Vicar, Church-Warden, Vestry, and Inhabitants, of the Parish of St. Martin's in the Fields, in the County of Middlesex, a Bill was order'd to be brought in, 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

and about the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, to direct the Parish-Church of *St. Martins in the Fields* to be rebuilt, instead of one of the Churches which was design'd for the said Parish. The same Day the Land-Tax Bill was read the second Time and committed to a Committee of the whole House, as was also, two Days after, the Malt Bill. The Day before, Mr. *Lowndes* presented to the House an Account of several Overplusses stated at *Michaelmas* 1718, and reserv'd for Disposition of Parliament.

Nov. 29, An Account of the Treasurer to the Trustees for *Dagenham Breach*, for a Year, ending at *Michaelmas* 1718, was laid before the Commons, who then appointed a Committee to enquire what Sums of Money have been laid out in particular Places, where any of the fifty new Churches have been built, or are building, and what is agreed for the Scites in such Places where any of those Churches are design'd to be built, and of all other Expences relating thereto, and to report the same to the House.

On the 6th of *November*, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London* attended his Majesty with the Petition which follows:

To the King's most Excellent Majesty, the humble Petition of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London*, Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioners are apprehensive of being disquieted in the Execution of their Offices, by Pretence of not subscribing a Declaration against the Solemn League and Covenant at the Time of their Admission into their respective Offices, pursuant to an Act of Parliament made in the thirteenth Year of King *Charles II.*

That such Subscription had been generally refused, and the said Act, in that Particular, for the most Part disregarded.

That your Petitioners have, in the Administration of their Offices, behav'd themselves with all Duty and Affection to your Majesty and your Government; and humbly hope and pray, that your Majesty will give such Directions and Orders herein, as shall effectually quiet the Minds of your Petitioners, and enable them to proceed with Chearfulness in the Execution of their respective Offices, for the Service



of your Majesty, and the Preservation of the publick Peace.

*And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.*

His Majesty was pleas'd to return the following most gracious Answer.

I Am fully perswaded of your Duty and Affection to me and my Government; and I take this Application kindly, as it is a Mark of your Trust and Confidence in me. I shall be glad not only for your Sakes but my own, if any Defects, which may touch the Rights of my good Subjects, are discover'd in my Time; since that will furnish me with Means of giving you and all my People an indisputable Proof of my Tenderness for their Privileges, and how unwilling I shall ever be to take Advantage of their Mistakes.

Dec. 17, was publish'd the following Déclaration of War against the King of Spain.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS we being engaged by divers Treaties to maintain the Neutrality of Italy, and to defend our good Brother the Emperor of Germany in the Possession of the Kingdoms, Provinces, and Rights, which he enjoy'd in Europe; and being likewise very desirous to settle the Peace and Tranquillity of Christendom upon the most just and lasting Foundations we were able, did, for that Purpose, from Time to Time, communicate our peaceful Thoughts and Designs to the King of Spain by his Ministers, and conceiv'd Hopes, that they would have had his Approbation. And whereas upon the said King of Spain's Invading, in a hostile and unjust Manner, the Island and Kingdom of Sardinia, we did cause the most friendly Representations to be made to him in that Behalf; but finding ourselves oblig'd to support and enforce our Instances by a naval Strength, we did send our Fleet into the Mediterranean this last Summer, with a full and earnest Intention to make Use of its Appearance there, for setting on foot Negotiations of Peace towards reconciling the Parties engaged in War, and thereby preventing the many Calamities that

that must ensue therefrom. And whereas we did likewise, to testify our most sincere Inclinations to Peace, send our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Councillor *James, Earl Stanhope*, one of our principal Secretaries of State, to *Madrid*, with full Power and Commission to offer our most hearty Endeavours for re-establishing the Quiet of *Europe*, and for cultivating and improving the Friendship of the said King of *Spain*. And whereas notwithstanding all the Instances we could possibly make, all the Tenders of Amity and Affection we could use, our said Plenipotentiary return'd without the least Hopes of peaceable Dispositions in the said Court of *Spain*; and our Admiral in the *Mediterranean*, finding also no Tendency to amicable Measures, was oblig'd to assist and protect the Emperor's Dominions by Force, which were in imminent Danger by the farther Invasion of the Kingdom of *Sicily*, and by the great Fleets and Armies which the said King of *Spain* had in those Parts. And whereas after all our Efforts and Endeavours, we have found the said King of *Spain* so far from hearkening to Terms of Friendship and Accommodation, that he has not only seiz'd the Persons and Effects of our Subjects, being and residing in his Dominions, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of solemn Treaties between us; but also has issu'd forth Orders to his Subjects to arm against us and our Subjects, and to attack, seize, and destroy them, their Goods, Ships, and Merchandizes, wheresoever they can meet with them. And as these violent and unmerited Proceedings have put us under a Necessity of Providing for the Good and Safety of our Kingdoms, and of all our loving Subjects, who may be expos'd to the Dangers of these Hostilities, without being authoriz'd to repel Force by Force, we have been oblig'd with Regret to call to Mind the many unfriendly and unjustifiable Acts, which have been done towards us and our Subjects, almost ever since our Accession to the Throne of these our Kingdoms. It would be endless to enumerate the Complaints of our Subjects, relating to the Infractions of Treaties, the Breach of ancient and establish'd Privileges, and the unwarrantable Obstructions of their accusom'd Trade and Commerce, concerning which our several Ministers at the

“ Court of *Spain*, have, from Time to Time, given  
“ in Memorials and Representations; but notwith-  
“ standing their repeated and most pressing Instances,  
“ they have scarce ever obtain’d the least Redress from  
“ the *Spanish* Court, who render’d thereby ineffectual  
“ the Benefits and Advantages which, we hoped,  
“ we had by Treaties and Conventions procur’d for  
“ our good Subjects. And it appearing to us farther,  
“ from the Conduct of the King of *Spain*, especially  
“ by the Instigation and pernicious Councils, as we  
“ conceive, of his Chief Minister (by whose Advice  
“ the true Interest of *Spain* seems entirely sacrificed,  
“ and the Subjects of that Country are not only neg-  
“ lected, but oppress’d) that the said King, under Co-  
“ lour of Balancing the Power of the Emperor, and  
“ securing the Liberty of the Princes of *Italy*, raised  
“ great Armies, equipp’d great Numbers of Ships of  
“ War, and made unusual Preparations by Land and  
“ Sea, which tended to set on foot dangerous Designs  
“ of Breaking through the Treaties of *Utrecht* and  
“ *Baden*, on which the Peace of *Europe* was founded;  
“ and of uniting, as Occasion should offer, upon one  
“ Head, the Crowns of *France* and *Spain*, the Separa-  
“ tion whereof has already cost so much Blood and  
“ Treasure, and which ought, in all Times to come,  
“ to be prevented with the utmost Attention, and  
“ fence’d against by all the Means which God hath  
“ put into the Hands of the neighbouring Princes  
“ and States concern’d in that fatal Event. We omit  
“ the Encouragement given to the Pretender to our  
“ Crown and his Abettors, the Endeavours to stir up  
“ other Princes against us, with the frequent Menaces  
“ thrown out, unbecoming the Dignity of Crown’d  
“ Heads: All which, with many other Insults and  
“ Affronts, we were ready and willing to put up, in  
“ case we could have found the least Disposition in  
“ the said Court of *Spain* to entertain a good and  
“ reasonable Amity. But as these Proceedings have  
“ at last broke out into open Hostilities, and neither  
“ the Interpositions of our good Brother the most  
“ Christian King, nor any other Means employ’d,  
“ could procure for us, our Allies, or our Subjects,  
“ any just Redress, Satisfaction, or Reparation, we  
“ could not any longer sit still and see our Honour  
“ ill treated, our good Friends and Allies unjustly  
“ invaded, our Subjects attack’d and despoil’d, their  
“ Commerce

Commercc prohibited, and all the Damage possible done unto them, without resenting the same in the Manner we ought, and taking up Arms in our just Defence, and for the doing Right to ourselves, our Allies, and our Subjects, against the violent Enterprizes of the said King of *Spain*: We therefore, reposing our greatest Confidence in the Help of Almighty God, (who knows the good and peaceful Intentions we have all along had) have thought fit to declare War against the said King of *Spain*; and we do accordingly hereby declare the same: And we will, in Pursuance of such Declaration, vigorously prosecute the said War, in Conjunction with our Allies, being assur'd of the ready Concurrence and Assistance of all our loving Subjects, in a Cause wherein the Honour of our Crown, the Maintenance of our solemn Treaties and Engagements, and the Preservation of the Rights and Advantages of our Subjects, are so deeply concern'd. And we do hereby Will and Require our General of our Forces, our Commissioners for executing the Office of High Admiral, our Lieutenants of our several Counties, Governors of our Forts and Garisons, and all other Officers and Souldiers under them, by Sea and Land, to do and execute all Acts of Hostility in the Prosecution of this War against the said King of *Spain*, his Vassals and Subjects, and to oppose their Attempts. And we do hereby Command, as well all our own Subjects, as advertise all other Persons, of what Nation soever, not to transport or carry any Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, or any other Contraband Goods, to any of the Territories, Lands, Plantations, or Countries of the said King of *Spain*; declaring, that whatsoever Ship or Vessel shall be met withal, Transporting or Carrying any Soldiers, Arms, Powder, Ammunition, or other Contraband Goods, to any of the Territories, Lands, Plantations, or Countries of the said King of *Spain*, the same being taken, shall be condemn'd as good and lawful Prize. And whereas there are remaining in our Kingdoms divers of the Subjects of the King of *Spain*, we, notwithstanding the Usage many of our Subjects have receiv'd in that Kingdom, do hereby declare our Royal Intention to be, That all the Subjects of *Spain*, who shall demean themselves dutifully



durifully towards us, shall be safe in their Persons  
and Estates.

Given at our Court at St. James's the sixteenth Day  
of December, 1718. In the fifth Year of our Reign.  
God save the King.

A List of the Sheriffs appointed by his Majesty for the  
Year 1719.

Berks, Richard Thompson of Choley, Esq; Bedford,  
Nicholas Luke, Esq; Bucks, Edward Sparkes of Ch.  
Wiccombe, Esq; Cumberland, John Pensolby, Esq; Can-  
tab. and Hunt. Stephen Basely of Houghton, Esq; Devon.  
William Cholwick, jun. Esq; Dorset, Alexander Thistle-  
thwayt, Esq; Derby, Samuel Burton, Esq; Ebor. Daniel  
Lascels, Esq; Essex, William Lockey, Esq; Gloucester,  
Christopher Bond, jun. Esq; Hereford, James Fleet, Esq;  
Hereford, John Dutton Colt, jun. Esq; Kent, John Ha-  
milton, Esq; Leicesters, John Bakewell, sen. of Norman-  
ton, Esq; Lincoln, Richard Nelthorp of Sealeby, Esq;  
Monmouth, Laurence Lord, Esq; Northumb. William  
Coatsworth, Esq; Northampton, Thomas Deacon, Esq;  
Norfolk, John Coleman of Broome, Esq; Nottingham,  
Lyonel Copley, Esq; Oxford, Thomas Whorwood, Esq;  
Rutland, Elfn Whiteing, Esq; Salop, Edward Brown  
of Cawley, Esq; Somerset, Robert Everard, Esq; Staf-  
ford, Charles Chadwick, Esq; Suffolk, Nicholas Jacob  
of Armeringhall, Esq; Southampton, Joseph Hinxman of  
Hinton, Esq; Surrey, Nath. Roffey, Esq; Sussex, Henry  
Shelley, jun. Esq; Warwick, John Radborne, Esq; Wor-  
cester, John Dennet, Esq; Wilts, John Askew, Esq;  
South-Wales.

Brecon, Price Devereux, Esq; Carmarthen, Rowland  
Lewis of Terracoed, Esq; Cardigan, Thomas Knolls of  
Wenall, Esq; Glamorgan, Michael Williams of Newcastle,  
Esq; Pembroke, William Wheeler of Haverford West, Esq;  
Radnor, Hugh Powell of Cwrt Elton, Esq;  
North-Wales.

Anglesey, Hugh Hughes of Räscoth, Esq; Carnarvon,  
William Bodvel of Madryn, Esq; Denbigh, Eubule  
Lloyd of Penny-Llan, Esq; Flint, William Brock, Esq;  
Merioneth, Ellis Jones of Nantbidder, Esq; Montgomery,  
Brockwell Griffiths of Bronyard, Esq;

Moneys advanc'd and paid off in the Exchequer, on the following Funds, to Jan. 1, 1719.

Int.	Exchequer.	Advanc'd.	Paid off.	Numb.
4	5th 3 Shilling Aid	1410000	1385167	1916
3 $\frac{1}{2}$	6th 3 Shilling Aid	1410000	137700	171
6	Hops	130000	173778	681
4	Malt 1717	700000	563259	1042
3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Malt 1718		12170	38
4	Lottery 1713, Civ. List	33000	57200	5th Pay 77
4	Dit. 1714, Benefits	1876400		10th Pay 90
5	Dit. 1714, Blanks			
6	Subsidies 1710	1210000	1157552	3311
4	Coals for Churches	164000	135399	491
5	Sale of Tin	1214740	1180990	3463

Blanks 1710, of 14s. per Annum, for 25 Years, 10l. 2s.

Blanks 1710, due Sept. 29, 1717, are paid to 140639.

Annuities for 99 Years.

Years Purchase.

1693, 14 l. per Cent. Excise	20
1705, 3700 l. per Week Excise	21
1706, $\frac{1}{4}$ additional Customs and Excise	21
1707, Low Wines, Sweets, Pedlars, and Customs	21
1708, 80000 l. 1 Moiety of old Ton. & Pound	21
1708, 40000 l. Surplusses	30
9 l. per C. 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ Years Excise, Raisins, Spices, Snuff	14
Prizes 1710, for 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ Years, Coals and Windows	14

l. s. d.

Gold in Bars for Exportation, per Ounce	3	18	1
Foreign Gold coin'd	3	18	3
Foreign Silver Pieces of Eight	5	5	3 $\frac{1}{4}$

South-Sea Transfer-Books open the 3d of February next.

Lottery-Annuity Transfer-Books open the 5th of March next.

The

The General Bill of all the *Christenings* and *Burials*, with the *Diseases* and *Casualties*, from Dec. 17, 1717, to Dec. 16, 1718.

## Christenings and Burials.

Christen'd	Males	9444	Bury'd	Males	13339
	Females	8863		Females	13164
	In all	18307		In all	26503

Increased in the Burials this Year 3077

## Diseases.

A Bortive	86	Green-Sickness	1	Rash	13
Aged	2221	Gangrene	2	Rheumatism	41
Ague	10	Gout	38	Rickets	81
Apoplexy	92	Gravel	3	Rising of the Lights	64
Asthma	107	Grief	10	Rupture	4
Bedridden	9	Gripping in the Guts	801	St. Anthony's Fire	2
Bleeding	1	Head-Ach	2	Scarlet-Fever	7
Bloody-flux	27	Head-mould-fret	57	Small-Pox	1884
Bursten	6	Hooping-Cough	24	Sores and Ulcers	40
Cancer	73	Horie-shoe Head	10	Spleen	3
Canker	8	Jaundice	129	Spotted-Fever	132
Chicken-Pox	2	Imposthume	47	Still-born	609
Childbed	263	Infants	19	Stone	45
Chin-Cough	8	Inflammation	1	Stop. in Stomach	152
Chrisoms	53	Leprosy	4	Strangury	11
Cholick	84	Lechargy	12	Suddenly	98
Consumption	3106	Liver-grown	2	Surfeit	15
Convulsion	8095	Looseness	62	Swelling	2
Cough	14	Lunatick	29	Teeth	1487
Cramp	1	Malignant Fever	1	Thrush	72
Diabetes	4	Melancholy	492	Tiflick	387
Droopy	1014	Mortification	124	Twisting o'th' Guts	53
Eyil	45	Overflowing the Gall	1	Tympany	16
Falling-Sickness	1	Palsy	36	Vapours	1
Fever	345	Plurisy	32	Vomiting	40
Fistula	17	Purples	26	Water in the Head	20
Flux	10	Quinty	19	Worms	28
French-Pox	91				

## Casualties.

Broken Leg	4	Found dead	36	Poyson'd	4
Ruined	5	Frighted	1	Scalded	3
Burnt	5	Kill'd accidentally	56	Stiffed	1
Dy'd by Accident	1	Made'em selves away	31	Wounded	3
Drown'd	81	Murder'd	7		
Excessive Drinking	11	Overlaid	76	Total	340
Executed	15				

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THE  
*Chronological Register*

For the Year 1718.

Containing

The most remarkable Transactions  
and Events, as well Civil as Military,  
and Domestick as Foreign, viz. Re-  
movals, Promotions, Births, Deaths,  
Marriages, &c. that happen'd during  
the Course of that Year.

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*Publsh'd at the Expence of the Sun Fire-Office.*

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L O N D O N:

Printed by H. MEEKE in Black Fryars. 1718.