

# The London Gazette.

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## His MAJESTIES Gracious Declaration To all His Loving Subjects for LIBERTY of CONSCIENCE.

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**I**T having pleased Almighty God not only to bring Us to the Imperial Crown of these Kingdoms through the greatest difficulties, but to preserve Us by a more than ordinary Providence upon the Throne of Our Royal Ancestors, there is nothing now that We so earnestly desire, as to Establish Our Government on such a Foundation, as may make Our Subjects happy, and unite them to Us by Inclination as well as Duty; Which We think can be done by no means so effectually, as by granting to them the free Exercise of their Religion for the time to come, and add that to the perfect Enjoyment of their Property, which has never been in any case invaded by Us since Our coming to the Crown: Which being the two things Men value most, shall ever be preserved in these Kingdoms, during Our Reign over them, as the truest Methods of their Peace and Our Glory. We cannot but heartily wish, as it will easily be believed, that all the People of Our Dominions were Members of the Catholic Church, yet We humbly thank Almighty God, it is, and hath of long time been Our constant Sense and Opinion (which upon diverse Occasions We have declared) that Conscience ought not to be constrained, nor People forced in matters of meer Religion: It has ever been directly contrary to Our Inclination, as We think it is to the Interest of Government, which it destroys by spoiling Trade, depopulating Countries, and discouraging Strangers; and finally, that it never obtained the End for which it was employed: And in this We are the more Confirmed by the Reflections We have made upon the Conduct of the four last Reigns. For after all the frequent and pressing Endeavours that were used in each of them, to reduce this Kingdom to an exact Conformity in Religion, it is visible the Success has not answered the Design, and that the Difficulty is invincible; We therefore out of Our Princely Care and Affection unto all Our Loving Subjects, that they may live at Ease and Quiet, and for the increase of Trade and Encouragement of Strangers, have thought fit by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative, to issue forth this Our Declaration of Indulgence; making no doubt of the Concurrence of Our Two Houses of Parliament, when We shall think it convenient for them to Meet.

In the first Place We do Declare, that We will Protect and Maintain Our Arch-Bishops, Bishops, and Clergy, and all other Our Subjects of the Church of England, in the free Exercise of their Religion, as by Law Established, and in the quiet and full Enjoyment of all their Possessions, without any Molestation or Disturbance whatsoever.

We do likewise Declare that it is Our Royal Will and Pleasure, That from henceforth the Execution of all and all manner of Penal Laws in Matters Ecclesiastical, for not coming to Church, or not Receiving the Sacrament, or for any other Non-conformity to the Religion Established, or for, or by Reason of the Exercise of Religion in any manner whatsoever, be immediately Suspended; And the further Execution of the said Penal Laws and every of them is hereby Suspended.

And to the end that by the Liberty hereby Granted, the Peace and Security of Our Government in the Practice thereof, may not be endangered, We have thought fit, and do hereby strictly Charge and Command all Our Loving Subjects, That as We do freely give them Leave to Meet and Serve God after their own Way and Manner, be it in Private Houses or Places purposely Hired or Built for that use; so that they take especial care, that nothing be Preached or Taught amongst them, which may any ways tend to Alienate the Hearts of Our People from Us or Our Government; And that their Meetings and Assemblies be peaceably, openly, and publickly held, and all Persons freely admitted to them; And that they do signify and make known to some one or more of the next Justices of the Peace, what Place or Places they set apart for those uses.

And that all Our Subjects may enjoy such their Religious Assemblies with greater Assurance and Protection, We have thought it requisite, and do hereby Command, That no Disturbance of any kind be made or given unto them, under Pain of Our Displeasure, and to be further proceeded against with the uttermost severity.

And for as much as We are desirous to have the Benefit of the Service of all Our Loving Subjects, which by the Law of Nature is inseparably annexed to, and inherent in Our Royal Person: And that none of Our Subjects may for the future be under any Discouragement or Disability (who are otherwise well inclined and fit to serve Us) by Reason of some Oaths or Tests, that have been usually Administred on such occasions: We do hereby further Declare, That it is Our Royal Will and Pleasure, That the Oaths commonly called, The Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, and also the several Tests and Declarations mentioned in the Acts of Parliament made in the 25th and 30th years of the Reign of Our late Royal Brother King Charles the Second, shall not at any time hereafter be Required to be Taken, Declared or Subscribed by any Person or Persons whatsoever, who is or shall be Employed in any Office or Place of Trust either Civil or Military, under Us or in Our Government. And We do further Declare it to be Our Pleasure and Intention from time to time hereafter, to Grant Our Royal Dispensations under Our Great Seal to all Our Loving Subjects so to be employed, who shall not take the said Oaths, or Subscribe or Declare the said Tests or Declarations in the above-mentioned Acts and every of them.

And to the end that all Our Loving Subjects may receive and enjoy the full Benefit and Advantage of Our Gracious Indulgence hereby intended, and may be Acquitted and Discharged from all Pains, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Disabilities by them or any of them incurred or forfeited, or which they shall or may at any

time hereafter be liable to, for or by reason of their Non-conformity, or the Exercise of their Religion, and from all Suits, Troubles, or Disturbances for the same: We do hereby give Our Free and Ample Pardon unto all Non-conformists, Recusants, and other Our Loving Subjects, for all Crimes and Things by them committed or done contrary to the Penal Laws formerly made relating to Religion and the Profession or Exercise thereof. Hereby Declaring, That this Our Royal Pardon and Indemnity shall be as Good and Effectual to all Intents and Purposes, as if every Individual Person had been therein particularly named, or had particular Pardons and Our Great Seal, which We do likewise Declare shall from time to time be Granted unto any Person or Persons desiring the same: Willing and Requiring Our Judges, Justices, and other Officers, to take Notice of and Obey Our Royal Will and Pleasure herein before Declared.

And although the Freedom and Assurance We have hereby given in relation to Religion and Property, might be sufficient to remove from the Minds of Our Loving Subjects all Fears and Jealousies in relation to either; yet We have thought fit further to Declare, That We will Maintain them in all their Properties and Possessions, as well of Church and Abby-Lands, as in any other their Lands and Properties whatsoever.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the Fourth Day of April, 1687. In the Third Year of Our Reign.

Vienna, March 27. The Elector of Bavaria is returned to Munich, having during his stay here, had several Conferences with the Prince of Baden, President of the Council of War, to concert the Time and Place for the General Rendezvous of the Imperial and Auxiliary Forces. On Monday last the Moscovite Ambassadors had their publick Audience of the Emperor, to which they were Conducted with much Solemnity; and Commissioners are appointed to enter into Conference with them, that so they may be dispatched as soon as may be. Two of these Ambassadors are to go from hence to Rome and Venice; But the Pope's Nuncio, and the Ambassador of Venice at this Court, have offered to treat with them here on the behalf of his Holiness and the Republick, to free them from a Journey, which would only serve to retard on the side of the Czars the preparations for the next Campaigne. The States of Croatia have sent Deputies hither, to desire that the Forces of that Country may act in a separate Body the next Summer. The last Letters from Five Churches say, the Turks work day and night to put the City of Belgrade into a condition of defence.

Cologne, April 4. The Comde de Villar Mayor, Ambassador Extraordinary from the King of Portugal to the Elector Palatin, arrived the last week at Frankfurt. Prince Louis of Neuburg, Great Master of the Teutonic Order, intends to part in few days for Mergenthal, the place of his usual Residence.

Hamburgh, April 4. They write from Berlin, that the Steur Bilniski, Envoy Extraordinary from Poland, continued there, expecting an Answer from the King his Master, about the conditions upon which the Elector of Brandenburg offers to send 1500 Men with a small Train of Artillery to the assistance of that Crown. The Baron de Goedens the Emperor's Minister, with the Princes of Lorraine, having demanded of them 4500 Men to serve in Hungary the next Campaigne, they have excused themselves, for that they send a considerable number of their Troops to the assistance of the Venetians. The Letters from Poland speak again of the arrival of a great Convoy of Provisions at Caminick.

Hugor, April 8. The Sieur Driest Envoy from the Elector of Brandenburg, and the Intendant Raule part-

ed from hence the last week on their return to Berlin; not having been able to adjust the differences depending between the Subjects of this State; and those of his Electoral Highness, concerning their Trade on the Coasts of Africa. The Heer Van Odyke is returned from Zealand, where he had been to assist at the Meeting of the States of that Province.

Paris, April 9. The King who went to Marli the 2d, returned to Versailles the 5th Instant. It's said, that after the Journey to Maintenon, his Majesty will take another towards Luxemburg. The Troops of the King's Household have Orders to be in a readiness to march on the first of the next Month. We are told there will be Five Camps this Spring; The First on the River Eure, where there will be 35 Battalions, Commanded by the Marquis d'Uxelles; The Second on the Soane, Commanded by the Marquis de Boufflers; The Third on the Saar, Commanded by the Sieur de Bulonde; The Fourth in Flanders, under the Orders of Monsieur de Montbron; And the last in Guenne, Commanded by the Sieur de St. Rie. The Duke of Mortemar is going with five Men of War against the Corsairs of Sallee, who have of late taken several French Vessels. The Marquis de Lavardin, the King's Ambassador to the Pope, has Orders to hasten his departure; and in the mean time, a Squadron of Gallies sitting at Marjesilles to carry him to Civita Vecchia.

Paris, April 12. The King goes to Morrow to Marli for 3 days, and the 19th to Maintenon; and about the 8th or 10th of the next Month his Majesty will begin his Journey to Luxemburg, intending to be back at Versailles in Three Weeks or a Month at farthest. The Marquis Dogliani, who is come to succeed the Marquis Ferrero, with the Character of Ambassador from the Duke of Savoy, had the 7th Instant a private Audience of the King at Versailles. The 19th the Duke de Gefores Governor of this City, took his place in the Parliament in that quality with the usual Ceremonies.

#### Advertisements.

These are to give Notice, That the Post will go from the General Letter Office in London, to Ashby-della-zouch in the County of Leicetter three times in every-week, on the general Post days; and in like manner return from thence.

Or, Select Physical and Chyrurgical Observations: Containing divers remarkable Histories of Cures, done by several famous Physicians. By William Salmon Professor of Physick. With useful Tables for the whole Work; as also large and plain Directions for the use of every Instrument. Sold by T. Passenger at the three Bibles on London Bridge, and J. Richardson near the Mitre Tavern in Fenchurch-street.

ON Friday the 8th Instant at Jonathan's Coffe-house in Exchange Alley in Cornhill, will be exposed to Sale by way of Auction the third and last Division in the Catalogue of choice English Books in Folio, and on Tuesday next will begin the Sale of the French, Spanish, Dutch, and Italian Books. Such Gentlemen who hitherto are unprovided with Catalogues, may be furnished therewith at the place of Sale.

Taken the 29th past, from a Gentleman's Lodging in Drury-lane, a Sword with a Bow-Hilt, and several Figures inlaid with Gold, the Hande Silver Gilt. Two Periwiggs, a black Bever Hat with a Rich Gold Band. A Cape, the Head Princess Metal, Gilt, with a Rose Engraved on it. A drawing Walnut-Tree Box, with two Drawers in it, one of them cut deep, to put Mathematical Instruments in, opening before, this was in a Deal Box lined with green Bays. Whoever gives Notice of the things, so that they may be recovered, to Mr Clench in Hunt's Court in Castle-street, Leicetter-Fields, shall have Three Guinea's Reward.

Taken out of a House next Door to the Golden Ball in Great Queen-street, a silver Server, and two Cups with Covers Chac'd, and two Tar cards plain, with several other things mentioned in the last Gazette. Whoever gives Notice of them aforesaid, shall have 5 l. Reward.

Lost on Friday night last a French Spaniel Birch, Liver-colour'd and white, with a long Tail newly shorn. Whoever brings her to Mr Thomas Barns next Door to the White Horse in Drury-lane, over against Long acre, shall have a Guinea Reward.