
I Appoint *John Wright*, and *Richard Chiswel*, to Print this MESSAGE and ADDRESS, Perused by me, According to the Order of the HOUSE of COMMONS; And that no other Person presume to Print the same. Nov. 29. 1680.

Wth WILLIAMS, *Speaker*.

HIS
MAJESTIES
MESSAGE
TO THE
COMMONS in PARLIAMENT,
Relating to *TANGIER*.
AND THE HUMBLE
ADDRESS
OF THE
COMMONS
TO HIS
MAJESTY,
In Answer to that MESSAGE.

Presented upon *Monday 29. Nov. 1680.*

L O N D O N,
Printed for *John Wright* at the Crown on *Ludgate-hill*,
and *Richard Chiswel* at the Rose and Crown in
St. Paul's Church-Yard. 1680.

(71)

HIS
MAJESTIES
MESSAGES
TO THE
COMMONS
IN
PARLIAMENT.

CHARLES REX.

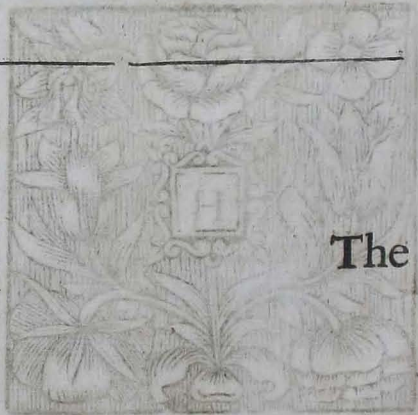


HIS Majesty did
in His Speech,
at the opening
of this Session,
desire the Ad-
vice and Assi-
stance of His Parliament, in relation
I i to

to *Tangier*: The Condition and Importance of the Place obliges His Majesty to put this House in mind again, That He relies upon them for the Support of it, without which it cannot be much longer Preserved. His Majesty does therefore very earnestly Recommend *Tangier* again to the due and speedy Consideration and Care of this House.

CHARLES REX

His Majesty did
 in His Speech
 at the opening
 of this Session
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 vice and Assi-
 stance of His Parliament in relation
 to



The

The Humble

ADDRESS

OF THE

COMMONS

IN

PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED,

Presented to His

MAJESTY.

Monday 29th. day of Nov. 1680.

May it please your Most Excellent Majesty,



WE Your Majesties
 most Obedient and
 Loyal Subjects, The
 Commons in Parlia-
 ment Assembled, ha-
 ving with all Duty
 and Regard taken
 into our Serious Consideration Your
 Majesties late Message relating to
Tangier, cannot but account the pre-
 sent Condition of it, as Your Ma-
 jesty

jesty is Pleas'd to Represent it in Your
 said Message, (after so vast a Treas-
 ure expended to make it Useful) not
 only as one Infelicity more added to
 the afflicted Estate of Your Majesties
 faithful and Loyal Subjects, But as one
 result also of the same Counsels and
 Designs which have brought Your
 Majesties Person, Crown and King-
 doms into those great and imminent
 Dangers, with which at this day they
 are surrounded ; And we are the less
 surprized to hear of the Exigencies of
Tangier, when we remember that since
 it became part of Your Majesties Do-
 minions, it hath several times been
 under the Command of Popish Go-
 vernors, (particularly for some time
 under the Command of a Lord Im-
 peached, and now Prisoner in the
Tower for the Execrable and Horrid
 Popish Plot) That the Supplies sent
 thither have been in great part made
 up of Popish Officers and Soldiers,
 and that the *Irish* Papists amongst the
 Soldiers of that Garrison, have been
 the Persons most Countenanced and
 Encouraged.

To

To that Part of Your Majesties
 Message, which expresses a Rely-
 ance upon this House for the Sup-
 port of *Tangier*, and a Recommenda-
 tion of it to Our speedy Care, We do
 with all Humility and Reverence, give
 this Answer, That although in due
 Time and Order, We shall omit
 nothing Incumbent on Us, for the
 Preservation of every Part of Your
 Majesties Dominions, and Advan-
 cing the Prosperity, and flourishing
 Estate of this Your Kingdom; yet at
 this time, when a Cloud which has
 long threatned this Land, is ready
 to break upon Our Heads, in a Storm
 of Ruine and Confusion, to enter
 into any further Consideration of
 this Matter; especially, to come
 to any Resolutions in it, before We
 are effectually Secured from the Im-
 minent, and Apparent Dangers a-
 rising from the Power of Popish
 Persons and Councils, We humbly
 conceive, will not consist either with
 Our Duty to Your Majesty, or the
 Trust reposed in Us by those We re-
 present.

It is not unknown to Your Ma-

jesty how restless the Endeavours,
 and how bold the Attempts of the
 Popish Party, for many Years last
 past, have been, not only within this,
 but other Your Majesties Kingdoms,
 to Introduce the Romish, and utter-
 ly to Extirpate the True Protestant
 Religion. The several Approaches
 they have made towards the Com-
 passing this their Designe, (assisted
 by the Treachery of Perfidious Pro-
 testants,) have been so strangely
 Successful, that 'tis Matter of Admi-
 ration to Us, and which We can on-
 ly ascribe to an Over-ruling Provi-
 dence, that Your Majesties Reign is
 still continued over Us, and that We
 are yet Assembled to Consult the
 Means of our Preservation: This
 Bloody and Restless Party, not con-
 tent with the great Liberty they had
 a long time enjoyed, to exercise their
 own Religion privately amongst them-
 selves, to partake of an equal Free-
 dom of their Persons and Estates
 with Your Majesties Protestant Sub-
 jects, and of an Advantage above
 Them, in being excused from
 Chargeable Offices, and Employ-
 ments,

ments, hath so far prevailed, as to find Countenance from an open and avowed Practice of their Superstition and Idolatry, without controul, in several Parts of this Kingdom. Great swarms of Priests and Jesuits have resorted hither, and have here exercised their Jurisdiction, and been daily tampering to pervert the Consciences of Your Majesties Subjects. Their Opposers they have found Means to disgrace; and if they were Judges, Justices of the Peace, or other Magistrates, to have them turned out of Commission; and in Contempt of the known Laws of the Land, they have practised upon People of all Ranks and Qualities, and gained over divers to their Religion; some openly to profess it, others secretly to espouse it, as most conduced to the Service thereof.

After some time they became able to influence Matters of State and Government, and thereby to Destroy those they cannot Corrupt. The Continuance, or Prorogation of Parliaments has been accommodated to serve the Purposes of that Party.

Money

Money raised upon the People, to supply your Majesties extraordinary Occasions, was by the Prevalence of Popish Councils imployed to make War upon a Protestant State, and to Advance and Augment the dreadful Power of the *French King*, though to the apparent Hazard of This, and all other Protestant Countries. Great Numbers of your Majesties Subjects were sent into, and continued in the Service of that King, notwithstanding the Apparent Interest of your Majesties Kingdoms, the Addresses of the Parliament, and your Majesties Gracious Proclamations to the contrary. Nor can We forbear to mention, how that at the Beginning of the same War, even the Ministers of *England* were made Instruments to press upon that State, the Acceptance of one Demand, among others, from the *French King* for procuring their Peace with him, that they should admit the Publick Exercise of the Roman Catholic Religion, in the *United Provinces*, the Churches there to be divided, and the Romish Priests maintained out of the Publick Revenue.

At

At home, if Your Majesty did at any time by the Advice of Your Privy-Council, or of Your two Houses of Parliament, Command the Laws to be put in Execution against Papists, even from thence they gained advantage to their Party, while the edge of those Laws was turned against Protestant Dissenters, and the Papists escaped in a manner untouched. The Act of Parliament, enjoining a Test to be taken by all Persons admitted into any Publick Office and intended for a security against Papists coming into Employment, had so little effect, that either by Dispensations, obtained from *Rome*, they submitted to those Tests, and held their Offices themselves, or those put in their places, were so favourable to the same Interests, that Popery it self has rather gained than lost ground since that Act.

But that their business in hand might yet more speedily and strongly proceed, at length a Popish Secretary (since Executed for his Treasons) takes upon him to set afoot and maintain corresponden-

cies at *Rome* (particularly with a Native Subject of Your Majesties, promoted to be a Cardinal) and in the Courts of other Foreign Princes (to use their own form of Speech) for the subduing that Pestilent Heresie, which has so long domineered over this Northern World; that is, to root the Protestant Religion out of *England*, and thereby to make way the more easly to do the same in other Protestant Countries.

Towards the doing this great Work, (as Mr. *Coleman* was pleased to call it) Jesuits (the most dangerous of all Popish Orders to the Lives and Estates of Princes) were distributed to their severall Precincts within this Kingdom, and held joint Councils with those of the same Order in all Neighbour Popish Countries: Out of these Councils and Correspondencies was hatcht that damnable and hellish Plot, by the good Providence of Almighty God brought to light above two Years since, but still threatning us; wherein the Traytors impatient of longer delay, reckoning the
prolonging

prolonging of Your Sacred Majesties Life (which God long Preserve) as the Great Obstacle in the way to the Consummation of their hopes, and having in their prospect a Profelyted Prince immediately to succeed in the Throne of these Kingdoms, resolved to begin their Work with the Assassination of Your Majesty, to carry it on with Armed Force, to destroy Your Protestant Subjects in *England*, to Execute a second Massacre in *Ireland*, and so with ease to arrive at the Suppression of our Religion, and the Subversion of the Government.

When this Accursed Conspiracy began to be discovered, they began the smothering it with the Barbarous Murther of a Justice of the Peace, within one of Your Majesties own Pallaces, who had taken some Examinations concerning it.

Amidst these distractions and fears, Popish Officers, for the Command of Forces were allowed upon the Musters by special Orders (surreptitiously obtained from Your Majesty) but Counter-Signed by
a Secre-

a Secretary of State, without ever passing under the Tests prescribed by the aforementioned Act of Parliament. In like manner above fifty new Commissions were granted about the same time to known Papists, besides a great number of desperate Popish Officers, though out of Command, yet entertained at half pay. When in the next Parliament the House of Commons were prepared to bring to a legal Tryal the principal Conspirators in this Plot, that Parliament was first Prorogued, and then Dissolved. The Interval between the Calling and Sitting of this Parliament was so long, that now they conceive hopes of Covering all their past Crimes, and gaining a reasonable time and advantages of practising them more effectually.

Witnesses are attempted to be corrupted, and not only promises of Reward, but of the Favour of Your Majesties Brother, made the Motives to their Compliance. Divers of the most considerable of Your Majesties Protestant Subjects have Crimes of the highest nature

nature forged against them, the Charge to be supported by Subornation and Perjury, that they may be destroyed by Forms of Law and Justice.

A Presentment being prepared for a Grand Jury of *Middlesex*, against Your Majesties said Brother the Duke of *York*, (under whose Countenance all the rest shelter themselves) the Grand Jury were in an unheard of, and unprecedented, and illegal manner discharged ; and that with so much haste, and fear lest they should finish that *Presentment*, that they were prevented from delivering many other *Indictments* by them at that time found against other Popish Recusants. Because a Pamphlet came forth Weekly, called, *The Weekly Packet of Advice from Rome*, which exposes Popery (as it deserves) as ridiculous to the People, a new and arbitrary Rule of Court was made in Your Majesties Court of Kings Bench (rather like a Star-Chamber, than a Court of Law) That the same should not for the future be Printed by any Person whatsoever.

We acknowledge Your Majesties Grace and Care in issuing forth divers Proclamations since the Discovery of the Plot, for the Banishing Papists from about this Great City, and Residence of Your Majesties Court, and the Parliament ; but with trouble of Mind We do humbly inform Your Majesty,

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Tha^t

That notwithstanding all these Prohibitions, great Numbers of them, and of the most dangerous Sort, to the Terrour of Your Majesties Protestant Subjects, do daily resort hither, and abide here. Under these and other sad Effects and Evidences of the Prevalency of Popery, and its Adherents, We Your Majesties faithful Commons found this Your Majesties Distressed Kingdom, and other Parts of Your Dominions labouring, when We assembled.

And therefore from our Allegiance to Your Majesty, our Zeal to our Religion, our Faithfulness to our Countrey, and our Care of *Posterity*, We have lately, upon mature deliberation, proposed One Remedy of these Great Evils, without which (in our Judgements) all others will prove vain and fruitless, and (like all deceitful Securities against certain Dangers) will rather expose Your Majesties Person to the greatest hazard, and the People, together with all that's valuable to them as Men or Christians, to utter Ruine and Destruction. We have taken this Occasion of an Access to Your Majesties Royal Presence, humbly to lay before Your Majesties great Judgement and Gracious Consideration this most dreadful Design of Introducing Popery, and, as necessary Consequences of it, all other Calamities, into Your Majesties Kingdoms. And

if

if after all this, the private Suggestions of the subtle Accomplices of that Party and Design should yet prevail, either to Elude or Totally Obstruct the faithful Endeavours of Us Your Commons for an Happy Settlement of this Kingdom, We shall have this Remaining Comfort, That We have freed our selves from the Guilt of that Blood and Desolation which is like to ensue. But our only Hope, next under God, is in Your Sacred Majesty, That by Your Great Wisdom and Goodness, we may be effectually Secured from Popery, and all the Evils that attend it; and that none but Persons of known Fidelity to Your Majesty, and Sincere Affections to the Protestant Religion, may be put into any Employment, Civil or Military; that whilst we shall give a Supply to *Tangier*, we may be assured, we do not Augment the Strength of our Popish Adversaries, nor encrease our own Dangers. Which Desires of Your faithful Commons, if Your Majesty shall graciously vouchsafe to grant, We shall not only be ready to assist Your Majesty in Defence of *Tangier*, but do whatsoever else shall be in our Power to enable Your Majesty to Protect the Protestant Religion and Interest, at Home and Abroad, and to Resist and Repel the Attempts of Your Majesties and the Kingdoms Enemies.

FINIS.