

He has sent Letters to the Primate of Poland and other Senators, ordering them not to do any thing, against the Protestants of that Kingdom, before the Opening of the ensuing Dyet. Here was publish'd an Order of the King for a considerable Augmentation of the Troops of this Electorate.

*Petersburg, Nov. 30.* On Saturday Count Gallowin, late Envoy Extraordinary to the States-General, arrived here from Holland, and designs in a few Days to proceed to Moscow; from whence the last Letters give an Account of the Death of Count Foder Matuewitz Apraxin, General Admiral Privy Councillor, &c.

L O N D O N.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, on Tuesday the 21st of January, 1728.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

I Am sensible you are met together in Expectation of being inform'd of the present Situation of publick Affairs, and of receiving that Satisfaction, which the Expences already made, and the Apprehension of their being continued for some longer Time, make it just and reasonable for you to desire.

The Execution of the Preliminary Articles, and the Opening the Congress at *Soissons*, laid a Foundation for you to entertain Hopes of seeing, very soon, the happy Fruits and Effects of a general Pacification.

But the various and extensive Views, which fell under Consideration, in settling and reconciling the different Interests and Pretensions of so many different Powers, appeared to be a Work of so much Time and Difficulty, that the Project of a Provisional Treaty was thought of, as a proper Expedient; which being concerted and negotiated among the Ministers of the Principal Powers, Parties to the Treaties of *Hanover* and *Vienna*, was approved of by Me and My Allies, not without reasonable Hopes of the Concurrence of the Imperial Court, and the Court of *Madrid*.

But no definitive Answer being yet return'd by either of them, nor the Project of the Provisional Treaty either accepted, or rejected, the Fate of *Europe* is still held in Suspence, labouring under Difficulties, that unavoidably attend such a doubtful and undetermined Condition.

It is with no small Concern, that I am again obliged to speak to My Parliament in this State of Uncertainty, nor am I insensible of the Burthens which My Subjects bear, and that in Our present Circumstances some may be induced to think that an actual War is preferable to such a doubtful and imperfect Peace. But as the Exchange is very easy to be made at any Time, and as I am confident I shall not be thought backward in doing Myself, and the Nation, Justice, when a proper Occasion calls upon Me for it, I hope you will believe, that a just Regard for the Ease and Interest of My People alone prevailed upon Me, rather to suffer some temporary Inconveniencies, with the daily Prospect of obtaining a safe and honourable Peace, than too precipitately to kindle a War in *Europe*, and to plunge the Nation into still greater and unknown Expences. But how disagreeable soever these Delays may be, nothing is more unjust than to impute them to the Conduct of Me, or My Allies: No Endeavours indeed have been wanting to separate and dissolve the happy Union that is established among Us; but long Experience and repeated Proofs of mutual Fidelity, have so strengthened and cemented this Alliance, founded upon, and united by common Interest, that all Attempts to weaken it, or to create Jealousies and Diffidence among Us, have proved as vain and fruitless, as the Insinuations to the contrary are false and groundless.

It will nevertheless be incumbent upon Us to bring this important Transaction to a speedy and certain Decision, that if a Conclusion can be put to it, consistent with the Security, and Preservation of the Rights, Privileges, and Possessions of *Great-Britain*, and my Allies, the Blessings of Peace may be diffused throughout *Europe*, and My Kingdoms again enjoy the happy Effects of a settled Tranquility; or if this cannot be had, that the Allies may unite with Vigour and Resolution, and exert themselves in procuring that Justice and Satisfaction, which has been so long delayed. If this should unavoidably be the Case, I depend upon the Zeal and Affection of this Parliament, that they will cheerfully and effectually support Me in carrying on a just and necessary War.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

I wished and truly hoped to have seen the publick Expenses lessened before this Time, but the present Circumstances of Affairs oblige Me to ask of you such Supplies as shall be necessary for answering and defraying the Charge and Services of the ensuing Year, and for enabling Me, as Events may require, to act with Vigour, and in Concert with My Allies, who have resolved to make the same Preparations, and to keep on foot all their extraordinary Forces. I will order the proper Estimates to be immediately produced and laid before you. And as the Produce of the Sinking Fund has exceeded Our Expectations, I must recommend it to your Care to make a farther Application of it to its proper Uses.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

It cannot be expected that I should enter into the several Causes and Motives, which may have occasioned the present Delays in the Courts of *Vienna* and *Madrid*; but if, among other Reasons, Hopes given from hence of creating Discontents and Divisions among My Subjects, and a Prospect of seeing Difficulties arise at Home, have greatly encouraged them in their dilatory Proceedings; I am persuaded, that your known Affection to Me, and a just Regard for your own Honour, and the Interest and Security of the Nation, will determine you effectually to discourage the unnatural and injurious Practices of some Few, who suggest the Means of distressing their Country, and afterwards clamour at the Inconveniencies which they themselves have occasioned. It is more than probable that foreign Courts will wait now for the Result of your Deliberations; and as you may depend upon My Constancy and Steadiness, that no wicked and groundless Suggestions or Insinuations shall make Me depart from My present Purposes, so I entirely rely upon your Wisdom and Unanimity, to convince the World, that such pernicious Designs and Intrigues shall not alter that Affection, Harmony, and good Understanding which has hitherto subsisted, and I hope will always subsist between Me and My Parliament.

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SToled or strayed away, last April, from *Nicholas Hawker*, living near the Eastern Branch of *Pattowmack*, a Sorrel Mare, about 13 Hands high, with a Blaze Face, a Flaxen Mane and Tail, a White Spot on her Buttock, and a Pearl on one of her Eyes, and branded on the Shoulder and Buttock, with the Letter M.

Also a young Grey Horse Colt, not cut, about 5 Years old, Whiter in his Face than other Part, branded on the Shoulder with the Letter I, and on the Buttock with the Letter Y turn'd upside down, thus (Λ) and a Bit taken out of one of his Ears.

Whoever brings them to the said *Nicholas Hawker*, or gives Notice of them, so as they may be had again, shall have Twenty Shillings Reward, and Proportionable for either.

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