

MARYLAND GAZETTE

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, June 27, 1750.

HIS MAJESTY's most gracious SPEECH to both HOUSES of Parliament, on *Thursday* the Twelfth Day of *April*, 1750.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an End to this Session of Parliament; without returning you My hearty Thanks for the Zeal and Dispatch, with which you have gone through the public Business. Nothing could have afforded Me more Satisfaction, than the Attention you have given to those essential Points of Our National Interest, which I earnestly recommended to you at the Opening of the Session. And it is with the greatest Pleasure I have now given My Assent to those Laws, which have been the Result of your prudent Deliberations, for advancing the public Credit; for promoting the Commerce and Manufactures of this Kingdom; and for encouraging the Industry of My good Subjects.

There has been so little Alteration in the State of Affairs Abroad, since your Meeting, that I have scarce any Thing to add upon that Head. My Resolution to adhere strictly to the Engagements I have enter'd into, and to do every Thing in My Power to preserve the Peace, which has been so happily established, continues the same; and I have received the fullest Assurance from all My Allies, of their Disposition to promote this great End. My sincere Endeavours shall be exerted to cultivate and improve this good Disposition, that My own Kingdoms, as well as the rest of Europe, may long enjoy the happy Fruits of the present Tranquility.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you in a particular Manner, for the Supplies you have so readily granted Me; and for the public Spirit you have shewn, in laying hold of the very first Opportunity to reduce the Interest of the National Debt, without the least Infringement of Parliamentary Faith. The Success which has already attended this wise Measure, is a Proof of the present Credit of this Kingdom; and has laid a sure Foundation for the Continuance of it; and cannot fail to add Strength and Reputation to My Government; both at Home and Abroad.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I make no Doubt but you will carry into your respective Countries, the same good Principles and Affections which I have experienced from you here. Let it be your Business to promote Peace and Harmony; and to support and propagate Religion, good Manners, and good Order, amongst My People; whose true and lasting Happiness shall be My constant Care.

Then the Lord CHANCELLOR, by HIS MAJESTY's Command, said;

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

It is His Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, That this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the Fourteenth Day of June next; to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the Fourteenth Day of June next.

From the LONDON REVIEW, April 14.

OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

IF any credit may be given to what is from time to time communicated in the foreign prints, a war in the North is already upon the point of breaking forth, which in its consequences thrust one way or other involve the most considerable States of Europe. The real occasion of this war is perhaps, arising to the artifices of France, and the natural antipa-

thy which subsists between Russia and Sweden, than to any just grounds of quarrel. The obstinate refusal of the Swedes to comply with the demands of Russia, by publicly declaring their resolution to continue the form of government under the prince successor upon its present establishment, is all that is pretended to excite these powers to discuss this important point at the expense of the lives of thousands of their own subjects, and perhaps as many of those of their neighbours.

Indeed the power of the Russian empire has of late years increased to an exorbitant height, which the Swedes by endeavouring in vain to oppose, have hitherto only served to augment; yet flattered by an alliance with France, and encouraged by the powerful succours promised by his Prussian majesty, they are still eager to make one effort more to regain what they have lost, and preserve their independency, which they cannot resign but with reluctance, to a people they were formerly accustomed to bear. While they are in this temper, it requires no extraordinary degree of penetration to discover, that their present policy tends secretly to promote a war, wherein they have reason to expect very powerful assistance.

Nor are the Russians less anxious after the same end. Elated by their superiority, they look upon the Swedes as a contemptible enemy, and long for nothing so much as an opportunity to revenge themselves for the blood of their ancestors. And thus both parties being naturally inclined for war, and prompted by those, whose interest it is to embroil the affairs of the North, it seems past all doubt that they are now on the eve of a rupture. Hence it is that Denmark is putting her forces upon a respectable footing, and building and refitting her marine; Prussia increasing its finances and laying up provisions for war; the empress queen from the same principles is levying men and remounting her cavalry; and, in short, every power that is capable of being affected, is providing against the impending storm.

The affairs of Italy are likewise in a very unsettled situation. The establishment of don Philip, and the new alliance between his Sardinian majesty and the house of Bourbon, cemented by the marriage of his eldest son with a daughter of Spain, cannot be very pleasing to the empress queen; as they seem to forebode the total exclusion of her issue from the dominions of their ancestors in that country. The sale of the island of Corsica, though often affirm'd, and as often contradicted, is certainly an affair of moment, which may be attended with consequences not easy to forget. Its situation for trade is undoubtedly as happy as any in Europe, and was that island under the mild administration of a free government, whose interest it would be to promote its commerce, the people would soon become rich and flourishing, and consequently in a series of years make no inconsiderable addition of strength to the power to whose lot they fall.

Petersburg, March 24. The troops which wintered in Esthonia, are marching out of their respective quarters towards the frontiers of Finland.

Stockholm, March 31. The king's ministers abroad have been directed to give the reasons why this court does not think fit to add to the declarations it has already made to Russia. The Swedes complain, that in the declarations made by Russia, they are treated not like an independent sovereign nation, but as vassals and tributaries to that empire.

Utrecht, April 12. This afternoon we received some important advices from the North; but as there is some obscurity therein, we can't yet venture to publish them.

Petersburg, March 25. M. Guidickens, the British minister, has just received orders to acquaint this court, that the king his master, hoped, for the sake of peace, that her Imperial majesty