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From Tuesday January 21. to Saturday January 25. 1723.

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 23d of *January*, 1723.

P R E S E N T,

The King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.
This Day his Grace Peregrine Duke of Ancafter Lord Great Chamberlain, was by His Majesty's Command Sworn one of the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and took his Place at the Board accordingly.

His Majesty in Council was this Day pleased to appoint the following Sheriffs, viz.
Wilts, Joseph Houlton, Jun. Esq;
Cardigan, David Jones, Esq;
Montgomery, Walter Wareing, of Oldbury, in the County of Salop, Esq;

Madrid, Jan. 16, N. S. The Catholick King, Philip the Vth, having taken a Resolution to make an absolute Renunciation of the Crown of Spain, in favour of his eldest Son the Prince of Asturias; and to retire, with the Queen his Consort, to *St. Ildefonso*, there to devote the Remainder of his Days wholly to the Service of God and the Care of his Soul; his Majesty sent last Night to the President of the Council of Castile his Renunciation in Form; which being this Day read in that Council, was ordered to be forthwith published throughout the Kingdom. It is as follows;

HAVING these Four Years considered, with due Reflection, and maturely, the Miseries of this Life, through the Infirmities, Wars, and Troubles, with which God has been pleased to visit me during the Twenty three Years of my Reign; and having likewise considered, that my eldest Son Don Lewis, Sworn Prince of Spain, is of sufficient Age, is married, and has Capacity, Judgment, and the Qualities fit for ruling and governing justly and happily this Monarchy; I have determined, absolutely to quit the Possession and Administration of it, Renouncing the same, with all its Dominions, Kingdoms, and Lordships, in favour of the said Prince Don Lewis my eldest Son; and to retire with the Queen, in whom I have found a ready Disposition and voluntary Inclination to accompany me, to this Palace and Seat of *St. Ildefonso*, Here to serve God disengaged from all other Cares, to meditate on Death, and to seek my Salvation. This I communicate to the Council for their Information, to be notified to the proper Persons, that my Resolution may be made known to all. At *St. Ildefonso*, this 15th of January 1724.

A Circular Letter has likewise been sent, by his Majesty's Direction, to the Persons whom before his Renunciation he thought fit to establish in the chief Offices of the Court and Government; that Letter is as follows;

THE King having resolved to retire, and to withdraw himself absolutely from the Government of this Monarchy, by Renouncing the Crown, with all its Dominions, Kingdoms, and Lordships, in favour of his eldest Son Don Lewis, Sworn Prince of Spain, his Majesty Commands me to acquaint you, that his Will is, you continue to serve the said Prince in the Employment you now possess.

Grimaldo,

Employments and Promotions which the King left settled at the Time of his renouncing the Crown.

The King's Household.

Steward, the Duke of Escalona.
Master of the Horse, the Duke of Arco, and the Reversion to the Count de Santistevan del Puerto, on whom the Presidentship of the Orders is conferred.

Butler, the Count de Altamira.
Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber, the same who were so before.

Captains of the Life-Guards, the same who were so before.

Captain of the Company of Halbardiers, the Prince of Maferan.

The Queen's Household.

Steward, the Marquess de Santa Cruz, and the Reversion to the Marquess de Valero, on whom the Presidentship of the Indies is conferred.

Master of the Horse, the Duke of Jovenazo Prince of Chelamar.

All the other Employments, of both Households, are confirmed to those who served before.

The Cabinet Council.

The Archbishop of Toledo.

The Bishop of Pampelona, Inquisitor General.

The President of Castile, the Marquess de Miraval.

The Marquess de Valero.

Don Miguel Francisco Guerra.

The Marquess de Lede.

The Count de Santistevan del Puerto.

Secretaries.

Of the Dispatches of State and of foreign Affairs; Don John Baptist Orendain.

Of the Dispatches relating to the Indies and the Marine, Don Antonio Sopenna.

The rest confirmed in their Employments.

New Knights of the Golden Fleece.

The Duke of Mirandola.

The Duke of Medina Celi.

The Duke of Medina Sidonia.

The Duke of Arco.

The Marquess de Santa Cruz.

The Marquess de Grimaldo.

The Marquess de Valouze.

The Marquess Scotti.

Don Antonio de Arduino.

The abovementioned Cabinet Council of seven Persons, being all Spaniards (except the Marquess de Lede, who is a Fleming,) is to have the Direction of Affairs under the new King. The Council of Castile has declared that King Lewis may immediately take the Government upon him, without assembling the Cortes, as having been already sworn and acknowledged Prince of Spain; and his Majesty is expected the 20th Instant, to take his Residence here, his Father remaining at *St. Ildefonso* attended only by the Marquess de Grimaldo and the Marquess de Valouze, and the Queen by Donna Laura who was her Nurse and two Ladies of her Bedchamber. The Pension which their Catholick Majesties have reserved to themselves, is 600000 Crowns a Year, making something more than 100000 Pistoles; they have also reserved 150000 Crowns for each of the Infantes. On the 10th Instant King Philip caused an Edict to be published, the Preamble of which is as follows;

HAVING considered what was represented to me by the Council in their Report of the 19th of October last hereto annexed, and having likewise considered all that was represented to me at the same Time by the Council of the Treasury, upon the different Points referred to them, particularly the putting into a Method on proper Conditions the Farms of the Royal Revenues, so as the Remedies proposed for relieving the Poverty and Misery which the People now labour under may be attained: And having considered all with the greatest Attention, and with the sincerest Desire to procure the Relief which the miserable Condition the whole Kingdom is in, and with which I am most sensibly affected, does indispensably require; well understanding that the Means of such Relief must