

# The London Gazette.

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*Westminster, January 9.*

**T**HIS Day His Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in His Royal Robes seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, Mr. Quarre, Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech.

*My Lords, and Gentlemen.*

It is with much Concern that I find Myself obliged to open this Session of Parliament with acquainting you, that the Distemper among the Horrid Cattle has lately broke out in this Kingdom, notwithstanding every Precaution that could be used for preventing the Infection from Foreign Parts. Upon the first Notice of it's actual Appearance, My next Attention was to endeavour to stop, if possible, it's farther Progress; and, as the Success of those Endeavours must, in all Probability, have been entirely defeated by any the least Degree of Delay in the Application of them, I thought it absolutely necessary, with the Advice of My Privy Council, to give immediate Directions for every Step to be taken that appeared most capable of checking the instant Danger of the spreading of the Infection, until I could have an Opportunity of consulting My Parliament upon some more permanent Measures for securing Us against so great a Calamity: And to your immediate and serious Consideration I earnestly recommend this very important Object.

I have given My Parliament repeated Assurances, that it has always been My fixed Purpose to preserve the General Tranquillity; maintaining, at the same Time, the Dignity and Honour of My Crown, together with the just Rights and Interests of My People. The uncommon Burdens, which My Subjects have borne so cheerfully, in order to bring the late War to a happy Conclusion, must be an additional Motive to make Me vigilant to prevent the present Disturbances in Europe from extending to any Part, where the Security, Honour, or Interest of this Nation may make it necessary for My Crown to become a Party. The Assurances, which I receive from the other Great Powers, afford Me Reason to believe, that My Endeavours will continue to be successful. I shall still make the general Interests of Europe the Object of My Attention: And while I steadily support my own Rights, I shall be equally careful not to acknowledge the Claims of any other Powers contrary to the Limitations of the late Treaties of Peace.

It is needless for Me to recommend to the serious Attention of My Parliament the State of My Go-

vernment in America. I have endeavoured, on My Part, by every Means, to bring back My Subjects there to their Duty, and to a due Sense of lawful Authority. It gives Me much Concern to inform you, that the Success of My Endeavours has not answered My Expectations; and that, in some of My Colonies, many Persons have embarked in Measures highly unwarrantable, and calculated to destroy the Commercial Connection between them and the Mother Country.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons.*

I have ordered the proper Estimates for the Service of the current Year to be laid before you. I am persuaded, that your Affection for My Person and Government, and your Zeal for the Public Good, will induce you to grant such Supplies as are necessary; and you may be assured, that, on My Part, they shall be managed with the strictest Oeconomy.

*My Lords, and Gentlemen.*

As the Welfare and Prosperity of My People have always been the Object of My Wishes, and the Rule of My Actions; so I am persuaded, from My Experience of your Conduct, that you will be governed in your Proceedings by the same Principles. My ready Concurrence and Support, in every Measure that may serve to promote those Ends, you may always depend upon. On you it will be now, more than ever, incumbent, most carefully to avoid all Heats and Animosities amongst yourselves; and to cultivate that Spirit of Harmony, which becomes those, who have but one Common Object in their View; and which may be most likely to give Authority and Efficacy to the Result of your Deliberations. Such a Conduct on your Part will, above all Things, contribute to maintain, in their proper Lustre, the Strength, the Reputation, and the Prosperity of this Country; to strengthen the Attachment of My Subjects to that excellent Constitution of Government, from which they derive such distinguished Advantages; and to cause the firm Reliance and Confidence, which I have in the Wisdom of My Parliament, as well as in their Zeal for the true Interest of My People, to be justified and approved both at Home and Abroad.

*Dublin Castle, December 26.*

**T**HIS Day his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant went in State to the House of Peers with the usual Solemnity, and the Commons being sent for, gave the Royal Assent to the following Bills:

*An Act for granting to His Majesty an additional Duty on Beer, Ale, strong Waters, Wine, Tobacco, Hides, and other Goods and Merchandizes therein mentioned, and for prohibiting the Importation of all Gold*

[ Price Three-Pence. ]