

# The London Gazette.

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From Saturday April 7, to Tuesday April 10, 1770.

AT the Court at St. James's, the 5th Day of April, 1770,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS there was this Day read at the Board, a Letter from Keith Urquhart, Sheriff Depute of the County of Banff in Scotland, to the Lord Justice Clerk, and a Copy of a Letter from Theophilus Ogilvie, Collector of the Customs at Aberdeen, to the Commissioners of the Customs in Scotland, containing Information, that an infectious Distemper had broke out amongst the Horned Cattle in and about the Town of Portsoy in the said County of Banff;—That the Sheriff Depute, and several of the Justices of the Peace of the said County, did, upon hearing thereof, meet together, to consider what was fit to be done; That, upon Enquiry, finding that the Infection was spreading, and that Cattle belonging to several different Persons, had died of the Distemper, they came to the Resolution of ordering all the Cattle in and about the Town of Portsoy to be appretiated, and to order them to be killed and buried, after giving Assurance to the Owners of an Indemnification for the Loss of their Cattle; and that their Orders had been accordingly carried into Execution, by killing and burying the Number of One Hundred and Forty-two Cattle;—That the said Sheriff Depute and Justices of the Peace, did hire proper Persons to watch and prevent all Cattle from being brought into the Town, and did give the necessary Directions to cleanse the Cow-houses, and other Places where the infected Cattle had been;—That there was Reason to believe the Infection had been brought from Holland in the Packages of uncustomed or prohibited Goods, which had been smuggled into that Part of the Kingdom.—And whereas by an Act passed in this present Year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for indemnifying all Persons with respect to Advising or Carrying into Execution His Majesty's Orders of Council made for preventing the Spreading of a contagious Distemper amongst the Horned Cattle, and for rendering the same valid and effectual, and for preventing Suits in consequence thereof, and to authorize the continuing, extending, and executing the same for a further Time;"—His Majesty is empowered, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, to extend His Orders issued upon the seventh and fourteenth Days of December last, for preventing the Spreading of the said infectious Distemper in the County of Southampton, to all such Counties and Places in Great-Britain, as His Majesty, in His great Wisdom, shall judge most expedient and effectual to prevent the Spreading of such infectious Distemper;—His Majesty, taking the said Letters into Consideration, and approving the Steps already taken, is graciously pleased to confirm the Assurance given to

the Owners of the Cattle which have been killed, of an Indemnification; and His Majesty, deeming it of the utmost Importance that such further Steps should be taken, as may appear to be necessary to prevent the Spreading of the said infectious Distemper, that has already broke out, or may hereafter break out, in that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, is pleased, with the Advice of His Privy Council, to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the Sheriff Depute, or Substitute in the County of Banff, do call a Meeting of the Justices of the Peace of the said County of Banff, to be held in the Town of Portsoy, or at any convenient Place near thereto; and that the said Sheriff Depute, or Substitute, and Justices of the Peace so assembled, the Number of Justices not being less than three, do ascertain the Value of the Cattle already killed, from the Appretiations made of them, or in any other Manner that to them may appear the most proper, for discovering the just Value thereof, and of the Expence unavoidably incurred in preventing the Spreading of the Distemper; and that they do make up an Account thereof, and certify the same by a Writing under their Hands, the Sheriff Depute or Substitute being always one who shall subscribe the said Writing.—And it is further ordered, that the said Sheriff Depute or Substitute, and any three or more of the said Justices of Peace of the said County of Banff, or the Sheriff Depute or Substitute, and any three or more of the Justices of Peace of any other County in Scotland, within which the said Infectious Distemper shall appear, may meet together and order such Steps to be taken, as to them shall seem the most likely to stop and prevent the Spreading of the said Distemper, where it is now broke out, or where it may hereafter break out, by the due Execution of the following Directions; particularly if they judge it necessary to buy up all Oxen, Bulls, Cows, Calves, Steers, and Heifers, whether infected or not, in those Places within which, in their Judgment, the Infection shall have broke out or spread to, at a Price not exceeding their fair and full Value, to be ascertained by the Report of two or more Persons, whom they shall appoint to appretiate the said Cattle upon Oath; and to give Orders, that the Cattle, so bought and appretiated, shall be immediately killed, and their Carcasses and Hides buried and treated in all Respects in the Manner prescribed by an Order of His late Majesty in Council, dated the 22d of March 1747. And in Case there should be any Owner or Owners of Cattle, so regardless of the Publick Welfare, as to refuse to sell such their Cattle at the Prices which they shall be appretiated at, that the said Sheriff Depute or Sheriff Substitute, and any three or more Justices of the Peace of the County, may cause such Cattle to be nevertheless killed and treated as aforesaid.—But His Majesty is pleased to declare, That it is not intended that the Powers contained in the said Order of

[ Price Three-Pence. ]

