

# The London Gazette.

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Westminster, May 23.

**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, Sir Francis Molyneux, Gentleman 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 give the Royal Assent to

*An Act for granting to His Majesty a certain Sum of Money out of the King's Fund; and for applying certain Monies, therein mentioned, for the Service of the Year One thousand seven hundred and seventy-six; and for further appropriating the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament; for giving further Relief to the Widows of Commission and Warrant Officers of the Royal Navy; and for making forth Duplicates of Exchequer Bills, Lottery Tickets, Certificates, Receipts, Annuity Orders, and other Orders, lost, burnt, or destroyed.*

*An Act to authorize, for a limited Time, the Punishment by hard Labour of Offenders, who, for certain Crimes, are or shall become liable to be transported to any of His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations.*

*An Act for obliging the Overseers of the Poor, within the several Parishes and Places within that Part of Great Britain called England, to make Returns upon Oath to certain Questions specified in the Act, relative to the State of their Poor; and to authorize and require the Justices of the Peace, within their respective Divisions and Jurisdictions, in the several Counties and Cities in England and Wales, to take such Returns upon Oath, and to cause them to be transmitted to the Clerk of the Parliaments.*

*An Act for suspending for a limited Time so much of an Act made in the Thirteenth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled, An Act to explain, amend, and reduce into One Act of Parliament, the General Law now in being for regulating the Turnpike Roads in that Part of Great Britain called England, and for other Purposes, as is to subject Carriages having the Fellies of the Wheels thereof of less Breadth or Gauge than Six Inches to the Payment of Double Tolls; and for waiving Contracts for Leasing Tolls.*

And to Thirteen Private Bills.

After which His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech:

*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

**T**HE Conclusion of the publick Business, and the advanced Season of the Year, make it proper for Me to give you some Reces: but I cannot put an End to this Session without assuring you, That the fresh Instances of your affectionate Attachment to Me, and of your steady Attention and Adherence to the true Interests of your Country, which you have shewn through the whole Course of your important Deliberations, afford Me the highest Satisfaction.

No Alteration has happened in the State of Foreign Affairs since your Meeting; and it is with Pleasure I inform you, that the Assurances which I have received of the Dispositions of the several Powers in Europe, promise a Continuance of the general Tranquillity.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

It was with real Regret and Concern that I found Myself under the Necessity of asking of My faithful Commons any extraordinary Supplies: I thank you for the Readiness and Dispatch with which they have been granted; and they are the more

acceptable to Me, as you have shewn, in the Manner of raising them, an equal Regard to the Exigencies of the Service, and the Ease of My People; and you may be assured, that the Confidence you repose in Me shall be used with proper Frugality, and applied only to the Purposes for which it was intended.

*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

We are engaged in a great National Cause, the Prosecution of which must inevitably be attended with many Difficulties and much Expence: But when we consider that the essential Rights and Interests of the whole Empire are deeply concerned in the Issue of it, and can have no Safety or Security but in that Constitutional Subordination for which We are contending, I am convinced that you will not think any Price too high for the Preservation of such Objects.

I will still entertain a Hope, that My rebellious Subjects may be awakened to a Sense of their Errors, and that, by a voluntary Return to their Duty, they will justify Me in bringing about the favourite Wish of My Heart, the Restoration of Harmony and the Re-establishment of Order and Happiness in every Part of My Dominions. But if a due Submission should not be obtained from such Motives and such Dispositions on their Part, I trust that I shall be able, under the Blessing of Providence, to effectuate it by a full Exertion of the great Force with which you have intrusted Me.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by His Majesty's Command, said:

*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

**I**T is His Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure, That this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the First Day of August next, to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the First Day of August next.

AT the Court at St. James's, the 17th Day of May, 1776,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS the Time limited by His Majesty's Order in Council of the 21st of February last, for prohibiting the Exporting out of this Kingdom, or Carrying Coastwise, Gunpowder, Saltpetre, or any Sort of Arms or Ammunition, will expire on the 23d of this Instant May; and whereas it is judged expedient that the said Prohibition should be continued for some Time longer, except in those Cases where (for the Benefit and Advantage of Trade, and for the Use and Defence of Ships trading to Foreign Parts, and of the Transports and Victualling Vessels employed in His Majesty's Service) His Majesty, by His several Orders in Council of the 13th and 27th of October, and of the 6th and 22d of November, 1775, and of the 5th and 19th of February last, has thought proper to permit and allow the Exportation of, and Carrying Coastwise, Gunpowder, Saltpetre, Arms and Ammunition, under certain Conditions and Restrictions mentioned in the said Orders—His Majesty doth therefore, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, hereby order, require, prohibit, and command, That no Person or Persons whomsoever (except the Master-General, Lieutenant-General, or Principal Officers of the Ordnance, for His Majesty's Service) do, at any Time, during the Space of Three Months, to

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