

An Act for making a Road from St. Bernard's Street, in the Town of Leith, to the Foot of Leith Walk, in the County of Edinburgh, and for widening and enlarging certain Streets in the City of Edinburgh, and the Avenues leading to the same, and for amending two several Acts passed relative to the said City, in the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Years of His present Majesty's Reign.

An Act to enable His Majesty to licence a Playhouse in the Town and County of the Town of Newcastle upon Tyne.

And to Two Private Bills.

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

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT close this Session of Parliament without expressing My entire Approbation of the Zeal and Affiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the important Objects which I recommended to your Attention, and at the same Time returning you My particular Thanks for the Proofs which you have given of your Affection for Me, and for My Family and Government.

The Assurances which I receive from Foreign Powers of their good Disposition to this Country, and the Continuance of the general Tranquillity of Europe, afford me great Satisfaction; but Dissentions unhappily prevail among the States of the United Provinces, which, as a Friend and Well-wisher to the Republic, I cannot see without the most real Concern.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The Cheerfulness with which you have granted the necessary Supplies, and the ample Manner in which you have provided for the several Establishments, demand My sincerest Thanks.

I see with particular Satisfaction that you have at the same Time been able to furnish the Sum annually appropriated to the Reduction of the National Debt, without imposing any new Burdens on My People.

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

I reflect with peculiar Pleasure on the Measures which you have taken for enabling Me to carry into Effect the Treaty of Navigation and Commerce with the Most Christian King, and for facilitating the Collection and simplifying the Accounts of the various Branches of the Revenue, which I trust will be productive of the most beneficial Effects. And I rely upon your using your best Endeavours in your several Counties to carry into Effect the Measures which have been taken for the Prevention of illicit Trade, and to promote good Order and Industry among every Class of My Subjects.

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 Tuesday the Thirty-first Day of July next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday the Thirty-first Day of July next.

By the KING,

A PROCLAMATION,

For the Encouragement of Piety and Virtue, and for the preventing and punishing of Vice, Profaneness and Immorality.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS We cannot but observe, with inexpressible Concern, the rapid Progress of Impiety and Licentiousness, and that Deluge of Profaneness, Immorality, and every Kind of Vice, which, to the Scandal of Our Holy Religion, and to the evil Example of Our loving Subjects, hath broken in upon this Nation; We therefore esteeming it Our indispensable Duty to exert the Authority committed to Us for the Suppression of these spreading Evils, fearing lest they should provoke God's Wrath and Indignation against Us, and humbly acknowledging that We cannot expect the Blessing and Goodness of Almighty God, (by whom Kings reign, and on which We entirely rely) to make Our Reign happy and prosperous to Ourselves and Our People, without a religious Observance of God's Holy Laws, to the Intent that Religion, Piety and Good Manners may (according to Our most hearty Desire) flourish and increase under Our Administration and Government, have thought fit, by the Advice of Our Privy Council, to issue this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby declare Our Royal Purpose and Resolution to discountenance and punish all Manner of Vice, Profaneness and Immorality, in all Persons, of whatsoever Degree or Quality, within this Our Realm, and particularly in such as are employed near Our Royal Person; and that, for the Encouragement of Religion and Morality, We will, upon all Occasions, distinguish Persons of Piety and Virtue by Marks of Our Royal Favour. And We do expect and require that all Persons of Honour, or in Place of Authority, will give good Example by their own Piety and Virtue, and, to their utmost, contribute to the discountenancing Persons of dissolute and debauched Lives, that they being reduced by that Means to Shame and Contempt for their loose and evil Actions and Behaviour, may be thereby also enforced the sooner to reform their ill Habits and Practices, and that the visible Displeasure of good Men towards them, may (as far as it is possible) supply what the Laws (probably) cannot altogether prevent. And We do hereby strictly enjoin and prohibit all Our loving Subjects, of what Degree or Quality soever, from playing on the Lord's Day at Dice, Cards, or any other Game whatsoever, either in Publick or Private Houses, or other Place or Places whatsoever; and We do hereby require and command them, and every of them, decently and reverently to attend the Worship of God on the Lord's Day, on Pain of Our highest Displeasure, and of being proceeded against, with the utmost Rigour that may be, by Law. And for the more effectual reforming all such Persons who, by Reason of their dissolute Lives and Conversation, are a Scandal to Our Kingdom, Our further Pleasure is, and We do hereby strictly charge and command all Our Judges, Mayors, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, and all other Our Officers and Ministers, both Ecclesi-