



# The London Gazette.

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*Westminster, November 2, 1797.*

**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 make the following most gracious Speech.

*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

**I**T is Matter of great Concern to Me, that the earnest Endeavours which, I have continued to employ since I last met you in Parliament, to restore to My Subjects the Blessings of Peace, on secure and honourable Terms, have unhappily been rendered ineffectual.

The Declaration which I have caused to be published, and the other Papers which I have directed to be laid before you, will, I am confident, abundantly prove to you, and to the World, that every Step has been taken on My Part which could tend to accelerate the Conclusion of Peace; and that the long Delay, and final Rupture of the Negotiation, are solely to be ascribed to the evasive Conduct, the unwarrantable Pretensions, and the inordinate Ambition of those with whom We have to contend, and, above all, to their inveterate Animosity against these Kingdoms.

I have the fullest Reliance, under the Blessing of Providence, on the Vigour and Wisdom of your

Counsels, and on the Zeal, Magnanimity, and Courage of a great and free People, sensible that they are contending for their dearest Interests, and determined to shew themselves worthy of the Blessings which they are struggling to preserve.

Compelled as We are, by the most evident Necessity, to persevere in the Defence of all that is dear to Us, till a more just and pacific Spirit shall prevail on the Part of the Enemy, We have the Satisfaction of knowing that We possess Means and Resources proportioned to the Objects which are at Stake.

During the Period of Hostilities; and under the unavoidable Pressure of accumulated Burthens, Our Revenue has continued highly productive, Our National Industry has been extended, and Our Commerce has surpassed it's former Limits.

The Public Spirit of My People has been eminently displayed; My Troops, of every Description, have acquired fresh Claims to the Esteem and Admiration of their Country; and the repeated Successes of My Navy over all Our different Enemies have been recently crowned by the signal and decisive Victory with which Providence has rewarded the Exertions of My Fleet under the Command of Admiral Lord Duncan.

No Event could be attended with more important and beneficial Consequences, or form a more brilliant Addition to the numerous and heroic Exploits, which, in the Course of the present War, have raised to a Pitch hitherto unequalled the Naval Glory of the Country.

*Gentlemen.*

[ Price One Shilling and Six-pence. ]