

our Acceptance thereof: And we do heartily and Solemnly Declare, that we are stedfastly Resolved, according to our Duty, during our Lives, to bear Faith and true Allegiance to Your most Sacred Majesty, Your Heirs, and lawful Successors, with all Clearness and Alacrity, to defend Your Majesties most Royal Person with our Lives and Fortunes, against all opposition whatsoever; and to the utmost of our Power to support and maintain the established Government both in Church and State, together with Your Majesties Royal Prerogatives, without which, we know our Liberty and Property cannot be preserved.

Most Dread Sovereign,

*We the most considerable part of the Nobility, Justices, Gentry, and Clergy, together with the Grand Jury of the County of Essex, at our Assizes held the 12th of July, 1681.*

**I**N a time when by wicked Plots and Conspiracies, Antimethodical Principles and Doctrines taught by the Papists and others influenced by them in Conventicles and private Meetings; When by Libels and seditious Pamphlets, endeavours are made to poison Your Subjects, defaming Your Government, to the endangering Your Majesties Person, with the disturbance of the Peace of Your Kingdom; When under pretence of liberty of Conscience, the Church of England our Mother (in Doctrine, Discipline and Worship, the best and nearest to the Primitive Institution) is set at naught, slighted and reviled: when buse Men will stretch beyond their List, Impose the crude Results of their Common Councils on Your Majesty, and forget Your most Gracious Act of Oblivion; We cannot but be very apprehensive, and fear (for how can we doubt the Design when Men tread the same paths, and offend again on the same wicked Principles?) a Resolution of those extreme Miseries, which Almighty God in his Mercy to the Nation, by his own immediate hand, in the happy miraculous Restauration of Your Majesty, delivered us from. That therefore Your Majesty may be the better enabled to Protect and Defend our Religion by Law established, the mischiefs we justly fear may (as much as in us lies) be prevented; Your Majesties Sacred Person, Your just Rights and Prerogatives, the Succession of Your Imperial Crown to Your lawful Heirs, according to the known Laws of this Kingdom, preserved; and the Persons, Estates, Liberties and Lives of Your good Subjects may be safe from Arbitrary Government, which Your Majesty resolves against; We present Your Majesty, and beseech You to accept the tender of our Hearts and Hands, Lives and Fortunes. And we beseech the Almighty God to give Your Majesty his Protection, Grant You long Life, and a happy and peaceable Reign over us. Which is the least we can do for so Good, Merciful, and Just a King; and Declare our Selves in all Humility of Heart and Soul, Your Majesties most Dutiful, Loyal, and Obedient Subjects till death.

*To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.*

Most Gracious Sovereign,

May it please Your Sacred Majesty,

**W**HE Your Majesties most Obedient and Loyal Subjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, Bayliffs, and Council of Your Majesties ancient Burrough of Lancaster, having heard Your Majesties most Gracious Declaration Read in our Parish Church, wherein to our full and compleat satisfaction, out of Your Princely Condescension, Your Majesty is pleased again to assure us of Your Gracious and Royal intentions, to maintain and preserve the established Government of this Your Realm, both in Church and State, and to Govern by the wholesome and well constituted Laws of this Nation; Under the influence of which Laws, by the Blessing of Almighty God, we have been hitherto happily preserved in our Lives, Religion, and Liberties, ever since Your Majesties Blessed Restauration. For which, as also of the further assurance Your Majesty therein gives us of Your Royal Intentions to call frequent Parliaments, and all other Your Princely Resolutions, in Your said Gracious Declaration expressed; we do, (as in all dutiful Allegiance bound) Render unto Your Majesty our most hearty and unfeigned Thanks; and with all humble submission acquiesce in Your Majesties Great Wisdom and Council, and when it shall please Your Majesty to call another Parliament, shall endeavour to choose such Representatives, as may comply with Your Majesty, in the support and preservation of the Government, as it is now by Law

established; assuring Your Majesty, that as we were the first Corporation in England, wherein Your Majesty was first proclaimed King of these Your Majesties Kingdoms; we shall always continue the like Affection and Loyalty to Your Majesty, and cheerfully and readily manifest the same upon all occasions for Your Majesties Honour and Service, to the utmost of our Lives and Estates.

*To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.*

The Humble Address of the Grand Jury, at the General Sessions of the Peace held for the County of Durham the thirteenth day of July, for and in the name of the whole County.

Most gracious Sovereign,

**W**HE Your Majesties most Loyal, Obedient, and truly faithful Subjects, being deeply sensible of the Invasions that have been made upon Your Majesties Government, tending no less to the violation of Your Laws, than the apparent hazard of Your Sacred Person, our Lives and Religion, do with all Reverence and Humility prostrate our selves at Your Royal feet, rendering our most grateful acknowledgments for these Your Princely and unwearied Endeavours, that by the Blessing of the Almighty we have seen so effectual in preventing the unnatural Attempts of these Your Majesties and the Kingdoms Enemies; more especially for Your late most gracious Declaration, whereby Your Majesty hath given such unquestionable assurances of maintaining the established Religion, our just Liberties and Properties, that (notwithstanding the malicious endeavours and detractions of ill men) have most justly acquired You the Loyal and Sincere Affections of Your People. In return to these Your Majesties most gracious Condescensions, we cannot better express the true sentiments of our Duty and Gratitude, than by humbly assuring Your Sacred Majesty, that we shall always pay that Obedience that may justly be expected from Loyal Subjects to the best of Kings, and likewise most Religiously and faithfully perform these Obligations of Allegiance we acknowledge indispensably due to Your Crown and Royal Dignity: Neither shall the bloody designs of Papists, or the bold and insolent behaviour of Factious and Fanatical persons cause us in the least to recede from these our fixed and settled Determinations; it being the unanimous Resolution of us Your Majesties most Obedient Subjects of this Your Loyal County, To sacrifice our dearest Blood, our Lives and Fortunes, for preserving Your Sacred Person, Your Lawful Heirs and Successors, the present Constitutions both in Church and State, as the only expedients for continuing these inestimable Blessings we now enjoy under Your Majesties most Religious and happy Government. And when Your Majesty shall graciously condescend to meet Your People in Parliament, we shall not fail to Elect such Representatives as will most readily endeavour those Assurances that are necessary for the support of Your Government, the vindicating Your Majesties Honour, the Reputation, Glory and publick Commerce of the Nation from all Enemies both at Home and Abroad.

The humble Address of Your Majesties Lieutenant, Deputy-Lieutenants, and Commissioned Officers of Horse and Foot, in the Militia of this Your County of Durham, at a General Muster, July 14. 1681.

May it please Your most Excellent Majesty,

**W**HE your Majesties most Loyal and Obedient Subjects, being highly sensible of your unwearied Care