

# The London Gazette.

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Whitehall, July 28.

**H**IS Majesty was this day pleased to order in Council, that the following Declaration should be forthwith Printed and Published.

*His Majesties Declaration to all His Loving Subjects, concerning the Treasonable Conspiracy against His Sacred Person and Government. lately Discovered. Appointed to be Read in all Churches and Chappels within this Kingdom.*

CHARLES R.

**I**T hath been Our Observation, That for several Years last past, a Malevolent Party hath made it their Business to Promote Sedition by False News, Libellous Pamphlets, and other wicked Arts; whereby they Endeavoured not only to Render Our Government Odious, and Our most Faithful Subjects Suspected to the People, but even to Incite them to a Dilike and Hatred of Our Royal Person: Whereupon it was evident to Us, That the Heads of this Party could have no other Aim, but the Ruine of Us and Our Government.

And whilst by Our utmost Care, We Manifested to all Our Subjects Our Zeal for the Maintenance of the Protestant Religion, and Our Resolutions to Govern according to Law; It was a great Trouble to Us to find, That Evil Persons by Misrepresenting Our Actions to the People, should so far Intimate themselves into the Affections of the weaker Sort, as that they looked upon Them as the only Patriots and Assertors of their Religion and Liberties, and gave themselves up entirely to their Conduct.

As their Numbers increased, so did their Boldness, to that height, That by often shewing themselves in Tumults and Riots, and Unlawful and Seditious Convenies, They not only Engaged, but Proclaimed an Impunity to their own Party, who thought themselves already too strong for the Law; and they seemed to believe, That in a short time they should gain upon the People, so as to persuade them to a total Desertion from the Government.

But irpleas'd God, by these their Violent Ways, to Open the Eyes of Our good Subjects, who easily Foresaw what Troubles these Methods would Produce; and thereupon with great Courage as well as Duty and Affection towards Us, upon all Occasions did Manifest their Resolution and Readiness in Defence of Our Person, and Support of Our Government, and the Religion Established: And did likewise Convince the Common People of the Villanous Designs of their Factious Leaders, and the Miseries that would befall them in pursuing such Courses.

By these means the Factious Party lost Ground daily, and finding that it was impossible to keep up the Spirits of their Followers, against the Religion Established, and the Laws, whilst we were Steady in the Maintenance and Execution of them, became Desperate, and Resolved not to Trust any longer to the slow Methods of Sedition, but to betake themselves to Arms; not doubting, but that they remained still strong enough by Force to overturn the Government which they could not Undermine.

It is hard to imagine how men of so many different Interests and Opinions, could joyn in any Enterprize; but it is certain, They readily Concurr'd in the Resolution of taking Arms to Destroy the Government, even before they had Agreed what to set up in the place of it.

To which purpose they took several Ways; For, whilst some were Conceiving a General Insurrection in this Kingdom,

and likewise in Scotland; Others were Conspiring to Assassinate Our Royal Person, and Our Dearest Brother, and to Massacre the Magistrates of Our City of London, and Our Officers of State, that there might be no Appearance of Government, nor any Means for Our Subjects to Unite for their Defence.

In case it had pleas'd God to permit these wicked Designs to have taken Effect. There could have been nothing in Prospect but Confusion: For, instead of the Reformation they pretended, their Success would have produced Divisions and Wars among themselves, until the Predominant Party could have Enslav'd the rest, and the whole Kingdom.

But the Divine Providence, which hath preserv'd Us through the whole Course of Our Life, hath at this time in an Extraordinary manner, shew'd it self in the Wonderful and Gracious Deliverance of Us and Our Dearest Brother and all Our Loyal Subjects from this Horrid and Damnable Conspiracy.

As it is therefore Our desire that all Our Loving Subjects should joyn with Us in giving Thanks to Almighty God for this Mercy, so We thought it necessary they should be now in some measure Informed of the Fact as it hath been Discover'd to Us by indoubted Proof, and the Confession of divers of the Accomplices in this Conspiracy; whereof, though We have not as yet perfectly Traced all the Particulars, the Principal and main Designs of it nevertheless, have appeared to be as followeth.

About the beginning of October last, when the Heads of the Faction saw the Magistracy of Our City of London Settled in Persons of Loyal Principles, they became impatient, and fell immediately to Consult of Raising in Arms; for which some thought their Party so well prepar'd, that they could not fail of attaining their ends whenever they should break out into open force.

Whereupon there was a Meeting of some of the Principal Conspirators, to Agree about the best means to Master Our Guards, and to Seize Our Person; but upon Consideration, they found it necessary to prepare their Friends in the several Counties, as also the Disaffected Party in Scotland to joyn with them, without which, any Attempt in Our said City, or upon Our Guards, appeared too rash to be undertaken; so that they laid aside the thoughts of a present Rising, and dispos'd themselves to find, by a Correspondence with Scotland, and with several parts of this Our Kingdom, how far they might be Assisted by a General Insurrection, so that they might not in Humane probability fail of Success.

Whilst this first Design was Forming, some Villains were likewise carrying on that Horrid and Execrable Plot of Assassinating Our Royal Person and our Dearest Brother, in Our coming from Newmarket, and Money was deposited for that purpose: But by the shortness of the time, (We being then immediately upon Our Return) and for want of necessary Preparations, they were forced to defer the Execution of it till further Opportunity.

It was then propos'd among them, Whether they should Attempt the same at Our next going to Newmarket, in March last? But some objected, That Our Guards which usually remain here some time after Our Departure, would be capable of making a great Opposition upon the Arrival of the News. For which Reason, and because they were not then in a sufficient Readiness; It was Agreed to be done at Our Return from Newmarket.

The Place Appointed was the House of one Richard Rumbold a Maltster, called the Rye, near Hoddeston in the County of Hertford: And it was Resolv'd, That Forty Persons in number, who were to be Actors in this Assassination, under the Command of the said Richard Rumbold, should hide themselves in or near the said House; And when Our Coach should come over against them, then Three or Four were to Shoot with Bunderbuffes at the Postillion and Horses, and if they should fail of killing the Horses, some were to be ready in the way, who in the Habit of Labourers should Turn a Cart across the Passage, and so stop Our Coach. Others were appointed