

pointed to stoop into the Coach, where our Royal Person, and Our Dearest Brother were to be: Others to Fire upon the Guards that it could be then Attending Us. And it was further Resolved, That upon the same Day, many Lords, and other Persons of Quality, whom they supposed favourable to their Design, should be Invited to Dine in Our City of London, That they might be the more ready to Appear among the Citizens upon Arrival of the News. The Actors in the said Assassination having Contrived the manner of their Escape, by a nearer Passage than the usual Road; By which means they hoped to get to London as soon as the News could be brought thither.

They thought it would be Easie upon their Perpetrating this Horrid Fact, to possess themselves of the Government, presuming upon the Numbers of the Disaffected.

But lest the Blackness of such an Action might Deter any from joining with them, They Prepared to Palliate it, as far as they could, by some Remonstrance, or Declaration, which was ready to be Printed and Dispersed in that Confusion, to Amuse the People. And lest Our Officers of State, and the Magistrates of Our said City, with the Militia thereof, and other Our Loyal Subjects, should be able to put some Stop to their Carreir, They Resolved to follow this Blow with a Massacre; wherein they particularly Designed for immediate Slaughter, Our Officers of State, the Present Lord Mayor, and Sheriffs, and the Magistracy of Our City, and other Our Subjects that had been most Eminent for their Loyalty.

But it pleased Almighty God, by His Wonderful Providence, To Deter these Councils by the sudden Fire at New-Market, which necessitated Our Return from thence before the time We had Appointed.

Yet these Villains were not thereby discouraged from Pursuing the same Bloody Design, but Resolved to take the first Opportunity for Effecting the same, and proposed to themselves, That it might be done, either in Our Passage from Windsor to Hampton-Court, or in Our Journey to Winchester, or when We should go by Water in Our Barge, or under Bedford Garden Wall, as We should pass that way, or at the Bull Head, which was to be in Red-Lyon-Fields; they being informed that We and Our Dearest Brother had Intentions of coming thither.

And that they might be the better prepared, when there should be occasion, by having a certain Number of Arms lying always ready for that purpose; Arms for Forty Men were bespoke in all haste, (viz.) Thirty Carbines with Belts and Swivels, Thirty Cases of Pistols, and Ten Blunderbusses, which were accordingly Made and Paid for.

And for the more easie Drawing their Party together against the time of Execution, they Contrived to Divide Our Cities of London and Westminster, and the Suburbs, into Twenty Parts; from each of which they expected Five hundred Men to be ready at the first Call; And some Agitators were to give an Account of the men to be furnished in each division, and to give out Orders to them, as there should be occasion.

And to the end the Forces they should Raise might be the sooner Modelled into the Form of an Army, there were One hundred Old Officers, who had been Engaged in the late Rebellion, ready in Town to take the Command of them; In the pursuit of which Project they continued, till they knew that a Discovery had been made unto Us.

During all this time, the Principal Conspirators were Managing their other Design for a General Insurrection in both Kingdoms.

The late Earl of Shaftsbury, who had at first Pressed them to sudden Rising, which he would have had before the 17th of November last, or upon that day at the farthest sent to the Conspirators, at a Meeting appointed by them, to know their Resolution; and finding they would not adventure without farther Preparation, Conveyed himself secretly into Holland, to avoid the danger he might be in by a Discovery.

His withdrawing himself from their Councils did not Discourage them from Pursuing their Design, only made them more Cautious; Whereupon a new Council was appointed of Six Persons that were to have the Chief Management of Affairs, in Order to a General Insurrection, by a Correspondency with their Party in Scotland, and several Counties of this Our Kingdom. And because a Correspondency by Letters was thought dangerous, it was held necessary that some Person should be sent into Scotland, to Invite the Heads of the Disaffected Party in that Our Kingdom, to come hither, under pretence of purchasing Lands in Carolina; But in truth, to Concert with them the best Means for carrying on the Design jointly in both Kingdoms: And a Treaty was thereupon had with Archibald Campbell late Earl of Argyle, already Attainted of Treason, who demanded Thirty thousand Pounds at first; But afterward Agreed to accept of Ten thou-

sand pounds, for buyng of Arms in Holland, and making other Provisions necessary for a Rebellion within Our Kingdom of Scotland.

In the said Council of Six it was Debated, whether the Rising in this Kingdom, should be first in Our City of London, where, by reason of the vast Numbers that might readily Unite, they thought they might easily Master the Guards, or rather in some remote parts, whereby We should be under a necessity of sending Our Guards to Suppress them, and thereby the Rising in Our said City would become more Secure and Effectual: But at last it was Resolved, as most convenient, That it should be in all parts at the same time, lest Our City might be Defended by the Militia thereof, without the help of Our Guards, which We might send for the Suppressing any Insurrection in the Countrey; And they did all dispose themselves accordingly, for the Compassing their Design, which was very near taking effect.

But such was the abundant Mercy of Almighty God, while they were yet meditating their execrable Mischiefs against Our Royal Person, Our Dearest Brother, and the Government, a Discovery was made unto Us by one of the Accomplish, on the Twelfth of June last; since which time We have used the best Means We could for the Detecting and Prevention of so Hellish a Conspiracy.

But so it has hapned, that divers of the Conspirators, having notice of Warrants issued out for their Apprehension, are fled from Justice; viz. James Duke of Monmouth, the Lord Melville, Sir John Cochrane, Sir Thomas Armetrong, Robert Ferguson, who was the Common Agitator Entrusted by all Parties in the several Conspiracies, Richard Goodenough, Francis Goodenough, Richard Rumbold the Maltster, William Rumbold his Brother, Richard Nelthorpe, Nathaniel Wade, William Thompson, James Burton, Joseph Elby, Samuel Gibbs, Francis Charleton, Joseph Tyley, Calteers, Lobb, both Non-Conformist Preachers, Edward Norton, John Row, John Ayloff, and John Atherton.

For Lord Gray being Apprehended, made his Escape out of the hands of a Serjeant at Arms, and Arthur late Earl of Essex, being Committed to the Tower for High-Treason, Killed himself.

Others have been Taken and Committed to Custody, some of whom, viz. the Lord William Russell, Thomas Walcott, William Hone, and John Rowle, have upon their Trials been Convicted, Attainted, and Executed according to Law.

This We thought fit to make known to Our Loving People, that they being sensible (as We are) of the Mercy of God in this great Deliverance, may Cleave and Devoutly joyne with Us in Returning Solemn Thanks to our Heavenly God for the same.

For which end We do hereby Appoint the Ninth day of September next, to be observed as a day of Thanksgiving in all Churches and Chappels within this Our Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed; in such manner as shall be by Us Directed, in a Form of Prayer with Thanksgiving, which We have Committed to be prepared by Our Bishops, and Published for that purpose.

And it is Our Pleasure, That this Declaration be Publickly Read in all the said Churches and Chappels, as well on Sunday the Second of September next, as upon the Day of Thanksgiving aforesaid.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the Eight and twentieth day of July 1683. In the Five and thirtieth Year of Our Reign.

Whitehall, August 5. The following Addresses having been presented to His Majesty, His Majesty was pleased to receive them very graciously.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,

Dread Sovereign,

WE the Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of Your Antient Corporation of Ipswich, have heard of the late Detected Conspiracy, against the precious Life of Your Sacred Majesty, and Your Dearest Brother; Whether with greater Amaze or Abomination, we cannot say. But sure we are, it is, and must be, the Eternal Shame and Reproach of that Party, and sort of Men, amongst whom such Villains and Mischiefants find Nursery and Encouragement, as could not be satisfied with the Blood and Gore of one King, of Blessed Memory, but were proceeding (in a short Canton of the same Age) to gorge their Cannibal Appetites upon a Second. The natural Consequences of this

Hideous