

# The London Gazette.

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By the King,  
**A PROCLAMATION,**  
 For Restoring Corporations to their Ancient Charters, Liberties, Rights and Franchises.

JAMES R.

**W**hereas We are informed that several Deeds of Surrender, which have been lately made by several Corporations and Bodies Corporate, of and in Our Cities and Towns within Our Kingdom of England, and Dominion of Wales, of their Charters, Franchises and Privileges, are not yet Recorded or Inrolled: And that upon the Proceedings and Rules for Judgment, which have lately been had upon the Quo Warranto's or Informations in Nature of a Quo Warranto, Judgments are not yet Entered upon Record: Whereupon, notwithstanding new Charters have been granted in the Reign of Our late Dear Brother, and in Our Reign: Which said Deeds (being not Inrolled or Recorded) do not amount unto, or in Law make any Surrender of the Charters, Franchises or Liberties therein mentioned: And such of the said Corporations or Bodies Politick, against which Rules for Judgments have been made in the Life time of Our late Dear Brother, or since, in Our Court of King's Bench (but no Judgments Entered upon Record) are not Dissolved or Dissolved; And that it is in Our Power to leave such Corporations in the same Estate and Condition they were in, and to discharge all further Proceedings and Effects that may be of such Rules for Judgments, and Deeds of Surrender: We do hereby publish and Declare, that upon due Search and Examination made, We have satisfaction that the Deeds of Surrender made by the Corporations and Bodies Politick of the said Cities and Towns, Except the Corporations following: (that is to say) Thetford, Nottingham, Bridgewater, Ludlow, Bewdley, Beverly, Teukesbury, Exeter, Doncaster, Colchester, Winchester, Launceston, Lisdred, Plimpton, Tregoney, Plymouth, Dunwich, St. Ives, Fowy, East-Looe, Camelford, Weit-Looe, Tintegall, Penryn, Truro, Bodmyn, Hadleigh, Leftwithell, and Saitath, are not Inrolled or Recorded in any of Our Courts: And that though Rules for Judgments have passed upon Informations in Nature of a Quo Warranto against the Corporations and Bodies Politick of several Cities and Towns, in Our said Kingdom and Dominion; Yet no Judgments have been, or are Entered upon Record upon any such Informations, Except against the City of London, Chester, Calne, St. Ives, Pool, York, Thaxted, Llanghour, and Malmesbury: And We of Our meer Grace and Favour, being Resolved to Restore and put all Our Cities, Towns and Burroughs in England and Wales, and also Our Town of Bewick upon Tweed, into the same State and Condition they were and was, in Our late Dear Brothers Reign, before any Deed of Surrender was made of their Charters or Franchises, or Proceedings against them or the Corporations or Bodies Politick, in or of the said Cities, Towns or Burroughs upon any Quo Warranto, or Informations in Nature of a Quo Warranto had. We do hereby therefore Publish, Declare, Direct and Require, That the said Corporations and Bodies Politick and Corporate of all the said Cities, Towns and Burroughs, whose Deeds of Surrender are not Inrolled, nor Judgments entered against them as aforesaid; And the Mayors, Bayliffs, Sheriffs, Aldermen, Common-Council-Men, Assistants, Recorders, Town-Clerks, Magistrates, Ministers, Officers, Freeman, and all and every others the Members of, or in every of them respectively upon the Publication of this Our Proclamation, Take on them and Proceed to Act as a Corporation or Body Politick, and where Places are vacant by Death or otherwise, to make Elections, Constitute and fill up the same, (Notwithstanding the usual Days and Times of Elections by the Ancient Charters and Constitutions shall happen to be past) and to Do, Execute and Perform all and every Matter, and Thing as they Lawfully

might and ought to have done, if no such Deeds of Surrender, Rules for Judgment, or other Proceedings upon any such Quo Warranto or Informations had been had or made. And for the better effecting Our said Intention, We have by Order made by Us in Council, and under Our Sign Manual; And We do also by this Our Proclamation made with the Advice of Our said Council, Discharge, Remove, and Dismiss all and every Person and Persons of and from all Offices and Places of Mayors, Bayliffs, Sheriffs, Aldermen, Common-Council-men, Assistants, Recorder, Town-Clerk, and all and every Office and Place which they or any of them have or Claim only by Charter, Patent or Grant from our Dear Brother, or from Our Self since the Dates of the respective Deeds of Surrender, or Rules for Judgment; Except such Corporations whose Deeds of Surrender are Inrolled, or against whom Judgment is Entered; and that all and every such Person and Persons deliver up into the Hands and Custody of the said Person hereby appointed and intended to Act and Execute the said Offices and Places, all and every the Charters, Records, Books, Evidences and Matters concerning the said respective Corporations.

And We do hereby further Publish and Declare, That We have caused all and every the said Deeds of Surrender which can be found, to be delivered and put into the hands of Our Attorney General, to be by him Cancelled and returned to the Corporations and Bodies Politick of the respective Cities and Towns whom they concern; And have also given to Our said Attorney Authority, and do hereby Warrant and Command him, not only not to proceed or enter Judgment upon the said Quo Warranto's or Informations, in Nature of a Quo Warranto, or any of them, but to enter upon the respective Records, Noli prosequi's, and Legal Discharges thereof: And We do hereby Publish and Declare Our further Grace and Favour to the said Cities, Corporations and Burroughs, at any time hereafter, by any further Act to Grant, Confirm or Restore unto them all their Charters, Liberties, Franchises, and Privileges, that at the respective times of such Deeds of Surrender, or Rules for Judgment made or given, they held or enjoyed: And in order to the perfecting Our said Gracious Intentions; We do hereby likewise Publish and Declare Our Royal Will and Pleasure as for and concerning the restoring to such of Our Cities, Corporations and Burroughs within Our said Kingdom and Dominion, which have made Deeds of Surrender, or have had Judgment given against them, which Surrenders and Judgments are Entered of Record, That Our Chancellor, Attorney-General and Solicitor-General, without Fees to any Officer or Officers whatsoever, upon Application to them made, shall, and they are hereby required to prepare and pass Charters, Instruments, Grants and Letters Patents for the Incorporating, Regranting, Confirming and Restoring to all and every the said Cities, Corporations, and Burroughs, their respective Charters, Liberties, Rights, Franchises and Privileges, and for restoring the respective Mayors, Bayliffs, Recorders, Sheriffs, Town-Clerks, Aldermen, Common-Council-men, Assistants, Officers, Magistrates, Ministers and Freeman, as were of such Cities, Corporations, or Burroughs at the time of such Deeds of Surrender, or Judgments respectively given or had, and for the putting them into the same State, Condition and Place they were in at the times of such Deeds of Surrender, or Judgments made or given. And whereas divers Burroughs that were not heretofore Corporations, have since the Year One thousand six hundred seventy nine, had Charters of Incorporation granted and passed unto them; We hereby further Expressly Declare Our Royal Pleasure, to determine and annul the said last mentioned Charters and Corporations; And to that end, We have in pursuance to the Power reserved in the said Charters, by Our Order in Council, and under Our Sign Manual, Removed and Discharged; and We do also by this Our Proclamation, made with the Advice of Our said Council, Remove and Discharge all and every Person of or in the said last mentioned Corporations, of and from all Offices and Places of Mayors, Bayliffs, Recorders, Sheriffs, Aldermen, Common-Council-men, Assistants,