

beg of you for God's sake, and the love of your Souls, to be very constant and serious in all Religious Offices, and holy Duties of Divine Worship and Service, which I have too much neglected, as I own to my great Sorrow: Let no Excuse, no Dangers, prevent or hinder you in these most necessary and serious Matters; and be, I beseech you very careful and circumspect in all your Actions, Behaviour, and Conversation, as I earnestly exhorted all that came to me.

I have, I thank God, a great deal of Satisfaction in my present Sufferings, and have found it so ever since I have been under them: And blessed be God it doth continually increase upon me. And I do now lay down my Life with all Cheerfulness and Resignation in sure and certain Hope of a Resurrection to Eternal Life, through our Lord Jesus Christ; through whose Merits alone I hope for the Pardon of my Sins, and the Salvation of my Soul.

And so, O Lord, into thy Hands I commend my Spirit, for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of Truth.

And I do heartily and humbly beseech thee Almighty God, and my most gracious Father, to forgive and bless this sinful Nation; Deliver it from the Guilt of Rebellion, Blood, and Perjury, that is now on all sides more than ever, and from all those other heinous Sins which cry aloud. Preserve and Bless this Church. Comfort our Distressed King; Restore him to his Right, and his mis-led Subjects to their Allegiance: Bless also his Royal Consort, our gracious Queen Mary; his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, that he may grow in Stature, and in Favour with God and Man; Support and Strengthen all those that suffer in any kind for a good Cause; give them Patience under all their Afflictions, and a happy Deliverance out of them. Forgive all mine Enemies.

Pardon my former neglect and remissness in Religious Worship, and holy Duties, and all the Sins I have been guilty of to this very moment. Consider my Contrition, Accept my Tears; And now thou art pleased to take me hence, take me into thy Favour, and grant that my Soul may be without Spot presented unto Thee, through the Merits of thy most dearly Beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

John Friend.

Sir WILLIAM PARKYNS'S Paper.

IT hath not been my custom to use many Words, and I shall not be long upon this Occasion, having Business of much greater Consequence to employ my thoughts upon. I thank God I am now in a full Disposition to **Charity**, and therefore shall make no Complaints, either of the Hardships of my Trial, or any other Rigours put upon me. However, one Circumstance I think my self obliged to mention; it was sworn against me by Mr. Porter, that I had own'd to him, that I had seen and read Commission from the King to Levy War upon the Person of the Prince of Orange: Now I must declare, that the Tenour of the King's Commission, which I saw, was general, and directed to all his Loving Subjects, to Raise and Levy War against the Prince of Orange and his Adherents, and to seize all Forts, Castles, &c. which, I suppose may be a customary Form of giving Authority to make War; but I must confess, I am not much acquainted with Matters of that Nature: But as for any Commission particularly levelled against the Person of the Prince of Orange, I neither saw nor heard of any such.

It's true I was privy to the Design upon the Prince, but was not to act in it; and am fully satisfy'd that very few or none knew of it, but those who undertook to do it.

I freely acknowledge, and think it for my Honour to say, that I was entirely in the Interest of the King, being always firmly persuaded of the Justice of his Cause, and looked upon it as my Duty, both as a Subject and an *Englishman*, to assist him in the Recovery of his Throne, which I believed him to be Deprived of, contrary to all Right and Justice, taking the Laws and Constitution of my Country for my Guide.

As for my Religion, I dye in the Communion of the Church of England, in which I was Educated.

And as I freely Forgive all the World, so whoever I may any ways have Injured, I heartily ask them Pardon.

April 3. 1696.

William Parkyns.