

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Saturday December 18. to Tuesday December 21. 1714.

DIRECTIONS to Our Archbishops, and Bishops, for the Preserving of Unity in the Church, and the Purity of the Christian Faith, concerning the Holy Trinity; and also for Preserving the Peace and Quiet of the State.

GEORGE R.

MOST Reverend, and Right Reverend Fathers in God, We greet you well: Whereas we are given to understand, That there have of late been great Differences among some of the Clergy of this Our Realm, about their ways of Expressing themselves in their Sermons and Writings concerning the Doctrine of the Blessed Trinity: And whereas also unusual Liberties have been taken by several of the said Clergy, in intermeddling with the Affairs of State and Government, and the Constitution of the Realm, Both which may be of very dangerous Consequence, if not timely prevented: We therefore, out of our Princely Care and Zeal for the Preservation of the Peace and Unity of the Church, together with the Purity of the Christian Faith, and also for Preserving the Peace and Quiet of the State, Have thought fit to send you these following Directions, which we strictly Charge and Command you to Publish, and to see that they be observed within your several Dioceses.

I. THAT no Preacher whatsoever, in his Sermon or Lecture, do presume to deliver any other Doctrine concerning the Blessed Trinity, than what is contained in the Holy Scriptures, and is agreeable to the Three Creeds, and the Thirty nine Articles of Religion.

II. That in the Explication of this Doctrine they carefully avoid all new Terms, and confine themselves to such ways of Expression as have been commonly used in the Church.

III. That Care be taken in this Matter, especially to observe the Fifty third Canon of this Church, which forbids publick Opposition between Preachers; because (as that Canon Expresses it) there groweth thereby much Offence and Disquietness unto the People: And that above all things they abstain from bitter Invectives and Scurrilous Language against all Persons whatsoever.

IV. That none of the Clergy in their Sermons or Lectures, presume to intermeddle in any Affairs of State or Government, or the Constitution of the Realm, save only on such Special Feasts and Fasts as are or shall be appointed by Publick Authority; and then, no further than the Occasion of such Days shall strictly require. Provided always, That nothing in this Direction shall be understood to discharge any Person from Preaching in Defence of Our Regal Supremacy Established by Law, as often, and in such manner as the First Canon of this Church doth require.

V. That the foregoing Directions be also Observed by those who Write any thing concerning the said Subjects.

VI. Whereas also We are Credibly Inform'd That it is the Manner of some in every Diocese, before their Sermon, either to use a Collect and the Lord's Prayer, or the Lord's Prayer only, (which the Fifty fifth Canon prescribes as the Conclusion of the Prayer, and not the whole Prayer) or at least to leave out Our Titles, by the said Canon required to be Declared and Recognized: We do further Direct, That you Require your Clergy, in their Prayer before Sermon, That they do keep strictly to the Form in the said Canon contained, or to the full Effect thereof.

VII. And whereas We also understand, That divers Persons who are not of the Clergy, have of late presumed not only to Talk and to Dispute against the Christian Faith, concerning the Doctrine of the Blessed Trinity, but also to Write and Publish Books and Pamphlets against the same, and industriously Spread them through the Kingdom, contrary to the known Laws in that behalf made and enacted; and particularly to one Act of Parliament made in the Ninth Year of King William the Third, Intituled, An Act for the more Effectual Suppressing of Blasphemy and Prophaneness: We taking all the Matters above mentioned into Our Royal and Serious Consideration, and being desirous to do what in

us lies, to put a Stop to these Disorders; do strictly Charge and Command you, together with all other Means suitable to your holy Profession, to make use of your Authority according to Law, for the Repressing and Restraining of all such Exorbitant Practices. And for your Assistance, We will give Charge to Our Judges, and all other Our Civil Officers, to do their Duty herein, in executing the said Act, and all other Laws against all such Persons as shall, by these means, give Occasion of Scandal, Discord, and Disturbance in our Church and Kingdom.

Given at our Court at St. James's, the Eleventh Day of December, 1714. In the First Year of Our Reign,
By His Majesty's Command,

TOWNSHEND

St. James's, December 20. The following Addresses have been presented to his Majesty.

An humble Address from the Bailiff, Recorder, Justices of the Peace, Bailiffs, Peers and Burgeses of the Ancient and Loyal Corporation of Wenlock; presented to his Majesty by the Honourable Richard Newport (one of their Representatives in Parliament) the Honourable Tho. Newport, and William Forester, Esq; introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Bradford, Lord Lieutenant of Salop.

An humble Address of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Capital Burgeses, and neighbouring Clergy, Gentlemen, Custom-House Officers and Chief Inhabitants of the Town and Borough of Bideford in the County of Devon; presented to his Majesty by John Fortescue Aland, Esq; Solicitor General to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and Recorder of the said Town, introduced by the Right Honourable the Lord Lansdowne Baron of Bideford.

An humble Address from the Governor, Council, and Representatives in General Assembly, of the Province of New Hampshire in New England, Congratulating his Majesty's happy Accession to the Throne.

An humble Address of the Council and Assembly of the Province of New Hampshire, acknowledging their great Happiness under the wise Administration of Col. Dudley, his Majesty's Governor of that Province, and praying that his Majesty would be graciously pleas'd to continue him in that Trust.

Both these Addresses were presented by Mr. Newman, Agent for that Province, who had the Honour of kissing his Majesty's Hand, being introduced by the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Which Addresses his Majesty was pleas'd to receive very graciously.

Petersburg, Nov. 15. O.S. The 31st past the Narva, a new Ship of War of above 60 Guns, built by a Russian named Pedrosee, was launched here: In her Passage down from hence for Croonslot the 2d Instant, she struck on the Bar nigh Petershoff, and stuck fast till the 9th, when the Builder Pedrosee raised her by Engines and set her afloat, and has since conveyed her safe to Croonslot, which is the Station for all the Czar's Ships of War. The 4th the Keels were laid of two Ships of 70 Guns each, which are to be finished, and ready for launching by the 1st of May next. Six Men of War have begun built at Archangel this Year, and are to be brought from thence hither the first open Water next Spring. The Czar continues his wonted Application to Business, frequently viewing his Ship-yards, and this Morning he set out for Croonslot, desighing to pass some Days there, to inspect the Damage the Narva has suffered, and order the necessary Repairs. Preparations are making here, by Order of his Majesty, for acting Comedies; likewise Assemblies and Circles are appointed to be held twice a Week at Court.

Hague, Dec. 21. N. S. Baron Heems, the Imperial Envoy, has lately had several Conferences with the Council of State, about the Residue of the last Million of Florins negotiated here for the Service of the Imperial Troops, and for regulating the Accounts between the Emperor and the States General, in relation to the Advances made on the Part of the Emperor to their High

Mighty