

We desire nothing more than to enjoy our Civil Rights, with a just Liberty to profess our own Religious Sentiments, which we take to be a Privilege due to all Men. We have been always ready to assist the Church of England in defence of the Protestant Religion, when in real and imminent Danger; being agreed with them, and all Protestant Churches, in those Principles that began the Reformation; and which alone can justify and support it.

When there has been a Design to introduce Popery and Arbitrary Power, the Protestant Dissenters have generally been first attack'd; nor know we any other Reason why we have now suffer'd the Outrage of Papists, Nonjurors, and other dissatisfied Persons; but that they were sure we were a Body of Men fix'd in our Duty to your Majesty, and lay the most expos'd to popular Insults, against which your Majesty and your two Houses of Parliament in your great Wisdom and Goodness have given us a seasonable and we hope effectual Security for time to come.

Whilst your Majesty's Government is disturb'd at home, and threaten'd with an Invasion from abroad, we can answer for those of our Persuasion, that there are not any of them whose Principles and Inclinations will not influence them to assist and support your Majesty and the Protestant Religion to the utmost of their Power; we look upon our selves bound by the strongest Ties of Duty, Gratitude and Interest, to acknowledge and maintain your Majesty's undoubted Right and Title to the Imperial Crown of these Realms, and to declare our utmost Abhorrence of all Attempts either at home or abroad in favour of a Popish Pretender.

May that gracious Providence that has so signally appear'd in bringing your Majesty to the Throne of these Kingdoms, continue to protect and defend your Royal Person and Family, against all Attempts of your open and secret Enemies.

His Majesty's most Gracious Answer.

I Am very much concern'd at the unchristian and barbarous Treatment which those of your Persuasion have met with in several Parts of My Kingdom; and Care shall be taken, that a full Compensation be made to them for their Sufferings.

I thank you for this Dutiful and Loyal Address, and you may be assured of my Protection.

St James's, August 18. The following Address from the Commission of the late General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, having been transmitted to the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, was this Day presented by his Lordship, and very graciously received by his Majesty.

To the KING's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty having had the Goodness to communicate to your People the certain Information you have had of mischievous Designs against our present Happiness, as to our dearest Concerns:

We should be guilty of an unaccountable neglect of our Duty, if we did not upon such an Occasion express our deep Sense that our Religion, our Laws, and our Liberties are, under the good Providence of the Almighty and infinitely wise God, owing to your Majesty's seasonable and happy Accession to the Throne of these Nations, to which you alone, Great Sir, had the just Title; and the signal Advantages we have been already Partakers of, and still enjoy under your Majesty's wise and just Administration, give us such a comfortable Prospect of our own and our Posterity's future Happiness under the auspicious Settlement of the Crown upon your sacred Person, and the Protestant Line in your Royal Family, that there is nothing that ought to be so dear to us as not to hazard for preserving such an excellent Establishment as makes all that is dear to us our own, and is, under God, our strongest Bulwark against Popery and Slavery.

When we reflect upon the lamentable Circumstances these Nations would be in, both as to Religion and Civil Liberties, if a Pretender, educated in the Abominations of Popery and Maxims of Tyranny, supported from abroad by such as are Enemies to the Liberties of Europe, and by a deluded Jacobite dissaffected Party at home, should succeed in his Designs, we cannot but be sensible that the having a Sovereign who bath the Happiness of his People for his great Aim, is so valuable a Blessing as must make us have the utmost Detestation of whatever may have the least Tendency to deprive us of it.

We therefore, Great Sir, beg Leave, to assure your Majesty, that we shall always endeavour in our Stations to testify our constant Fidelity and Affection to your sacred Person and Government, and our Readiness unanimously and heartily to concur in whatever Method shall be suitable to our Character with all your other Subjects, who are true Protestants and sincere Lovers of your Majesty's Royal Person and the Settlement of the Protestant Succession, for the Stability of the Crown upon your sacred Head, for the Protestant Religion, and all the valuable Blessings that in the Goodness of God we are now possessed of under your happy Administration, against the Pretender and all other Enemies to the true Interest of these Nations.

May your Majesty under Divine Protection and Conduct long sway the Scepter over your People for the publick Good at home and abroad; may you be a Terror to all your Enemies, and for ever dash the Hopes of all that are Opposers of your just Title; and may you, after fulness of happy Days upon Earth, be crowned with Glory, Honour and Immortality in Heaven, transmitting the Scepter of these Nations to your Royal Pregeny through all future Generations. These are the sincere and fervent Prayers of, May it please your Majesty, Your Majesty's most Faithful, most Obedient, and most Loyal Subjects, the Ministers and Elders met in the Commission of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Presence, in our Name, and at our Appointment, by Sic Subscriptur W. Carreres, Moderator.

St. James's,