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From Tuesday December 6. to Saturday December 10. 1720.

Westminster, December 8.

HIS Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Sir William Saunderson, Gentleman-Usher of the Black-Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech to both Houses.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since we last parted the Face of our Affairs abroad is become more favourable: The Peace in the South only wants the Form of a Congress; and that of the North is brought much nearer to a Conclusion. I shall, at a proper Time, order the several Treaties I have made to be laid before you, by which you will perceive the Success of our Endeavours to establish a Peace throughout Europe, and to secure and support the Protestant Religion. At the same time I can never sufficiently express my Concern for the unhappy Turn of Affairs, which has so much affected the publick Credit at home.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I do most earnestly recommend it to you, that you consider of the most effectual and speedy Methods to restore the national Credit, and fix it upon a lasting Foundation. You will, I doubt not, be assisted in so commendable and necessary a Work by every Man that loves his Country, and especially by the several great Societies of this Kingdom. I hope you will, on this Occasion, remember, that all your Prudence, your Temper, and Resolution, are necessary to find out and apply the proper Remedies to our Misfortunes; which will, if you succeed, serve to increase that Reputation you have so justly acquired; particularly if you shall be able, notwithstanding these Difficulties, to discharge a Part of the publick Debt.

I have ordered the several Estimates to be laid before you of the Expence of the ensuing Year; and must desire you to dispatch the Supplies necessary for them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am glad to observe to you, that our Trade does appear to have been more attended this Year than in the preceding one; we have the most flourishing Navy of any Nation whatsoever to protect it: And, I hope, you will turn your Thoughts to the best Methods for the Security and Enlarging of our Commerce. You may depend on my hearty Concurrence to all such Proposals as shall appear to you necessary for the Good of my People.

Malaga, Nov. 12. On the 9th Instant sailed hence for Ceuta about 30 Sateas and Tartans, having on board the 1st and 2d Batallions of the Regiment of Murcia, and the Regiment of Corsica, as also between 5 and 600 Recruits. They were convoyed by three Maltese Men of War, and among them were several Vessels laden with Barley and Straw. These Regiments before they went aboard were new cloathed, recruited, and completed. This Day arrived here by Sea, the Baggage of the Regiment of Galicia consisting of two Batallions, which are on the March hither by Land from Alicant, and expected here about the 20th Instant. Several empty Sateas and Tartans (Price Three Half Pence.)

are lately arrived here from Ceuta, which are loading back with Water, Barley and Straw; but the large Magazines laid up here of Provisions, are yet untouched.

Paris, Dec. 14. On the 10th Instant M. Pelletier de la Houffaye, Chancellour to the Duke Regent, was declared Comptroller General of the Finances, and the next Morning was presented by his Royal Highness to the King; after which he took the usual Oaths of Fidelity before the Chancellour. The same Day M. le Pelletier des Forts laid down his Employment of Commissary General of the Finances, and delivered his Accompts to the new Comptroller-General. It is said there will be two new Intendants de Finances, viz. M. d'Ormesson and de Gaumont Masters of Requests. It is likewise reported, that M. de Crozat, Bernard the Younger, and Paris, will have some Share in the Direction of the Finances, and that some Alterations will be made amongst the Directors of the India Company. It is said that on Monday next the Parliament at Pontoise will register the King's Declaration for recalling them hither. Mr. Law has resigned the Apartments he had in the Palais Royal to the Count d'Estampes, to whom they belonged formerly. The Cardinal de Rohan is preparing to set out for Saverne on his Journey to Rome, where 'tis said he is to reside two or three Years to take Care of the Affairs of France at that Court. The List of the Benefices the King has disposed of lately, is not yet published, but 'tis said that the Bishoprick of Mirepoix is conferred upon the Abbot d'Argentré, and that his Majesty has given the Abbey of Rofes in the Diocese of Metz to the Abbot de Rohan, Son of the Prince of Guimene. On the 6th Instant the Marquis Corfini, Envoy Extraordinary from the Grand Duke of Florence, had his publick Audience of Leave of the King; and on the 10th Count Hoym, Envoy Extraordinary of the King of Poland, had his first Audience of his Majesty with the usual Ceremonies. Madame the Regent's Mother is returned to Town from St. Cloud, to pass the Winter here.

Whitehall, Dec 10.

Whereas one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State has received a Letter in French dated the 2d of December Instant, from a Person offering to make certain Discoveries, but without any Direction where to send to him: If the Subscriber of the said Letter will attend that Secretary, or either of his Secretaries, at his Office at the Cockpit, he shall receive all fitting Encouragement.