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Westminster, March 7.

THIS Day His Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Sir William Sanderfon, 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 give the Royal Assent to

An Act for paying off and cancelling One Million of Exchequer Bills, and to give Ease to the South Sea Company in Respect of its present Obligation to Circulate or Contribute towards Circulating Exchequer Bills, and to give further time to that Company for Repayment of One Million which was lent to them; and for issuing a further Sum in new Exchequer Bills, towards His Majesty's Supply, to be discharged and cancelled when the said Company shall repay the Million owing by them; and that the Exchequer Bills which are to continue, may be Circulated at easy and moderate Rates; and for appropriating the Supplies granted to His Majesty in this Session of Parliament; and for Relief of the Sufferers at Neuus and St. Christopher's by an Invasion of the French in the late War; and for laying a farther Duty on Apples Imported, and for ascertaining the Duties on Pictures Imported

An Act for the Encouragement of the Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for taking off several Duties on Merchandizes Exported, and for reducing the Duties upon Beaver Skins, Pepper, Mace, Cloves, and Nutmegs Imported, and for Importation of all Furrs of the Product of the British Plantations into this Kingdom only; and that the two Corporations of Assurance on any Suits brought on their Policies, shall be liable only to single Damages and Costs of Suit.

An Act to enable the South Sea Company to dispose of the Effects in their Hands by way of Lottery or Subscription, or to sell Part of their Fund or Annuity payable at the Exchequer, in order to pay the Debts of the said Company, and for Relief of such who were intended to have the Benefit of a late Act touching Payment of Ten per Cent. therein mentioned.

An Act to prevent the Mischief by forging Powers to transfer such Stocks, or to receive such Annuitites or Dividends as are therein mentioned, or by fraudulently Personating the true Owners thereof, and to rectify the Mistakes of the late Managers for taking Subscriptions for increasing the Capital Stock of the South Sea Company, and in the Instruments founded thereupon.

An Act for prolonging the times for hearing and determining Claims before the Trustees, in whom the Estates of the late South Sea Directors, and of John Aislabie, Esq; and likewise of James Cragg, Esq; deceased, are vested, and for other Purposes therein mentioned.

An Act to prevent the clandestine Running of Goods, and the Danger of Infection thereby; and to prevent Ships breaking their Quarantine, and to subject Copper-Oar of the Production of the British Plantations to such Regulations as other enumerated Commodities of the like Production are subject.

An Act for taking off the Duty upon all Salt used in the curing and making of White-Herrings, and instead thereof laying a proportionable Duty upon all White-Herrings consumed at Home only; and for making an Allowance for Tobacco Exported from Scotland in the time therein mentioned, and for giving further Relief to the Refiners of Rock Salt.

An Act for the better Recovery of the Penalties inflicted upon Persons who destroy the Game.

An Act for supplying some Defects in the Statute of the Twenty Third of King Henry the Eighth, (intituled an Act for Obligations to be taken by two Chief Justices, the Mayor of the Staple, and the Recorder of London) and for setting down the time of Signing Judgments in the Principality of Wales and Counties Palatine.

An Act for supplying the Records of the Commissary Court of Aberdeen, burnt or lost in the late Fire there.

An Act for the more Effectual Suppressing of Piracy.

An Act for Repairing the Highways from the Stones end at White-Chapel Church in the County of Middlesex, to Shenfield, and to the furthestmost Part of the Parish of Woodford, leading to the Town of Epping in the County of Essex.

An Act for better supplying the City and Liberties of Westminster and Parts adjacent with Water.

An Act for the better preventing Abuses committed in weighing and packing of Butter in the City of York.

An Act for preventing Delays in the Execution of the Trust reposed in the Governours of the Hospital of King James founded in Charter-House, at the Charges of Thomas Sutton, Esq; for the Benefit of the said Hospital.

And to eight private Bills.

After which His Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Speech.

My Lords and Gentlemen,
YOU could not have given me a more acceptable Instance of your Zeal and Affection, than by dispatching with so much Unanimity, the several Particulars I recommended to you at the beginning of this Session, for the Ease and Advantage of my People.

The many and great Encouragements you have given to our Trade and Manufactures, and the Provision you have made for our being supplied with Naval Stores from our own Plantations, will, I make no doubt, excite the Industry of my Subjects, Employ a greater Number of the Poor, Increase our Navigation, and be a considerable Addition to the Riches and Strength of this Nation.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,
The raising the Current Supplies of the Year, and the making a Provision for the Discharge of so considerable a part of the Debt of the Navy, is a farther Proof of your Affection to Me, and your Regard for the Publick; and your doing it in a manner so little Burthenfome to my People, gives Me the greatest Satisfaction.

My Lord and Gentlemen,
I cannot in Justice part with this Parliament, without returning you My sincerest Thanks, for your Steady and Resolute Adherence to My Person and Government, and to the Interest of the Protestant Cause, both at Home and Abroad. The Enemies of our Happy Constitution have given the strongest and most honourable Testimony to your Behaviour in these Particulars, by the Implacable Malice which they have upon all Occasions expressed against you.

You must all be sensible, that they are at this Juncture reviving with the greatest Industry the same Wicked Arts of Calumny and Defamation, which have been the constant Preludes to Publick Troubles and Disorders; and such is their Insatiation, that they flatter themselves the grossest Misrepresentations will turn to their Advantage, and give them an Opportunity of recommending themselves to the Favour and Good Opinion of My People; but I have so Just a Confidence in the Affection of My Subjects, and in their Regard for their own Welfare, that I am persuaded they will not suffer themselves to be thus imposed upon, and betrayed into their own Destruction.

For My Part, as the Preservation of the Constitution in Church and State shall always be my Care, I am firmly determined to continue to Countenance such as have Manifested their Zeal for the present Establishment, and have the Religious and Civil Rights of all My Subjects truly at Heart; and I question not but that Behaviour which has justly recommended them to Me, will effectually secure to them the Good-Will of all that are well Affected to my Government; and will convince the World, that the Expectations of these are very ill grounded, who hope to prevail with a Protestant free People, to give up their Religion and Liberties into the Hands of such as are Enemies to both.