

quities redeemable by Parliament, transferable and payable by the South-Sea Company. And in such Case, and in regard of the Advantage which has already accrued to the Publick, by the greatest Part of the absolute Annuities being made Redeemable, and by the Benefit which the Publick will have in a few Years, from the great Increase of the sinking Fund by the Reduction of the Interest of our whole Debt to 4 l. per Cent. we humbly hope and beseech your Majesty, that you will be graciously pleased still to protect us, and in your own good Time recommend us to your Parliament for further Relief, in Relation to the Two Millions, Part of the heavy Premium we were to pay to the Publick for the late Scheme, the fatal Execution of which has brought such Calamities upon us.

That the Divine Will may continue to inspire and conduct your Councils; that your Royal Prerogative may be ever supported by your Subjects, as their Liberty and Laws, Property and Religion are defended by your Majesty; that you may have continual Victory over your Enemies, be Great and Triumphant Abroad, Loved and Honour'd at Home; That a long Series of Blessings on your Majesty, and your faithful Subjects, may attend your Reign, and that your Crown may for ever flourish in your Illustrious Family, are our continual Prayers.

By Order of the General Court,
John Eyles, Sub-Governour.
John Rudge, Deputy-Governour.

To which His Majesty was pleas'd to return the following most gracious Answer.

I Cannot but be very well pleas'd with this seasonable Declaration of the Zeal, Fidelity, and Affection of this great Body of my good Subjects.

I am fully perswaded that my Enemies will find themselves mistaken, who look upon the Discontents of the unhappy Sufferers in the South-Sea Project, as Disaffection to my Person and Government: And you do me but Justice in believing, that I did neither cause, nor had it in my Power to prevent, the Mischiefs that have happen'd.

I hear with Pleasure, that this Company and the Bank of England are come to that Temper and good Agreement, which was absolutely necessary for their mutual Interest, and the Publick Credit.

I have been all along sensibly affected with the great Losses and Sufferings of so many unhappy People; and saw with Concern all Methods propos'd for their Relief disappointed and rendered ineffectual: And as the great Bulk of the Capital is found to be a Weight upon it

self, and Detrimental to the Publick; whenever you apply to Parliament for Relief in regard to the Two Millions, upon the Conditions mentioned in your Address, you shall have my Recommendation and Consent to the Parliament's taking it into Consideration.

After which they had all the Honour to kiss His Majesty's Hand, and His Majesty was pleas'd to confer the Honour of Knighthood on Richard Hopkins, Esq; one of the Directors.

Whitehall, July 27.

An humble Address of the High Sheriff, Grand Jury, Justices of the Peace and Gentlemen of the County of Suffex, assembled at the Assizes holden at Lewes in and for the said County the 20th of July 1722, has been presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable Spencer Compton, Esq; one of the Knights of the Shire for that County.

An humble Address of the Lord Lieutenant Custos Rotulorum, Deputy-Lieutenants and Justices of the Peace for the County of Cumberland, having been transmitted by the Right Honourable the Earl of Carlisle, Lord Lieutenant of that County, to the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has by him been presented to His Majesty.

An humble Address of the Grand Jury, Deputy Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, Gentlemen, and Clergy, at the Assizes held at Nottingham the 14th of July 1722, has been presented to His Majesty by the Right Honourable Sir Robert Sutton, one of the Knights of the Shire for the County of Nottingham, introduced by the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

An humble Address of the Lord Lieutenant, Deputy Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, and Militia Officers of the County of Lincoln, having been transmitted by his Grace the Duke of Ancaster Lord Lieutenant of that County, to the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Townshend one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has by him been presented to His Majesty.

An humble Address of the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriff, and the rest of the Common-Council of the Town of Newcastle upon Tyne, has been presented to His Majesty by William Carr, Esq; one of their Representatives in Parliament, introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Scarborough Lord Lieutenant of the Town and County of the Town of Newcastle.

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

Paris,