

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday September 26. to Saturday September 30. 1727.

St. James's, September 28.

THIS Day the Reverend Mr. William Hamilton, Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh and Moderator of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and the Reverend Mr. James Hadow Principal of the New College in the University of St. Andrews, deputed by the said Commission, being introduced by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, presented to His Majesty the following Address.

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,

WE lay hold of this first Opportunity that our meeting together affords us, to express our just Sorrow and Concern for the unpeakable Loss which we, together with all the Protestant Churches have sustain'd, in the unexpected Death of his late Majesty your Royal Father, our most indulgent Sovereign; and at the same time to declare the hearty Joy and complete Satisfaction that possels us on your Majesty's quiet and peaceable Accession to the Throne.

When we revolve in our Thoughts, how melancholly our Situation appeared to be by the sudden Removal of our late most gracious and wise King, at a Season when the critical Juncture of publick Affairs in Europe seemed to call for the most steady Hand to conduct them; and when we reflect how momentary our Fears were, how quickly they were dispelled upon your Majesty's ascending the Throne of your Ancestors, with the universal and joyful Consent and Congratulation of your People; and when we see the Weight of British Councils in supporting the Protestant Interest Abroad, and preserving the Balance of Europe, prevail as formerly; we cannot but admire and adore the kind Providence of Almighty God, who hath turned our Sorrow into Gladness, and under these gloomy Circumstances which threatned us with Danger, hath opened to us the Prospect of lasting Happiness and Security.

It has been the Unhappiness of Britain for more than a Century past, that it never saw

the Throne fill'd, at the same Time with a Protestant King and Queen, bless'd and supported by a hopeful Progeny; whence grew that Weakness in the State, and Uncertainty in the Settlement in Matters of Religion, that has frequently threatened the Protestant Churches with Ruin. But now, Thanks be to our most gracious God, we see joyn'd to our King, whose Wisdom, Justice and Magnanimity, secure the Church and State from all Apprehensions, a Queen, whose Vertues and Piety are a fit Pattern for your People; and whose generous Contempt of Diadems, when standing in Competition with the Protestant Religion, is rewarded even in this Life with one of the most considerable Crowns in Europe; and assures Religion in this Island of finding in her a tender nursing Mother, as it gives a solid Expectation, that the growing Royal Family, the Hope and Glory of this Kingdom, will be brought up in the same Principles.

Under these happy Circumstances we can have no Apprehensions of what we formerly dreaded; but may reasonably hope, that the abjured Pretender will soon have no Friend in Britain, who is not likewise a Friend to his absurd Religion: And our faithful Endeavours must, with the Blessing of God, have the same Success against him, as against those Errors that lead captive his blinded Abettors into his Interest, against their own.

That the Profession we make of Affection to your Majesty is unfeign'd and genuine, no Enemy we have can pretend to doubt. Early upon your Accession to the Crown, we received the strongest Security that your Majesty will maintain inviolably the Rights and Privileges of the Church of Scotland; and its main Support, under God, is from the present happy Establishment of the Crown on your Majesty and your Royal Family. Our Preservation depends so evidently upon your undoubted Title to the Imperial Crown of this Realm, that tho' the Popish Pretender to your Majesty's Throne, in publick Papers and Declarations has often attempted to delude others with the vain Hopes of Protection, should his arbitrary and tyrannical Government take Place over this Island, yet not the remotest Insinuation either was, or could with any Colour be made in Favour of our Church; so inseparably are our Duty to your Majesty and our Interest connected together. And therefore we humbly presume to hope, that your Majesty will graciously accept of this first Declaration and

Tender