

County of Denbigh assembled, in pursuance of your Majesty's Commands, to consider of the most effectual Means to put the Laws in Execution against Persons disaffected to your Majesty's Person and Government, and to preserve the Peace of this County, most humbly beg Leave to testify our Zeal and Attachment to your Majesty's sacred Person and Government; and also to express our Abhorrence of the audacious Schemes that have been contrived and conducted by a Foreign Power in Favour of a Popish Pretender, in Concert with your disaffected and ungrateful Subjects, who (regardless of the inestimable Blessings and Indulgence they have enjoyed under your Majesty's and your late Royal Father's Reign, and infatuated with the Love of Change) have formed Designs destructive of our Civil and Religious Liberties: For the Preservation whereof, and of the Protestant Succession in your Majesty's most illustrious House, till Time shall be no more, permit us, Great Sir, most humbly to assure your Majesty, that we shall, in our respective Stations, at the Hazard of our All, contribute our unfeigned Endeavours and Diligence, to detect and bring to Justice such as dare to disturb our present happy Establishment, or conspire against your Majesty's Person, Crown and Dignity.

*Translation of the French King's Ordonnance, declaring War against England, dated March 15, 1744.*

By the King.

THE King, from the Beginning of the Troubles that arose after the Death of the Emperor Charles the VIth, omitted nothing to convince the World, that his Majesty desired nothing with more Ardour than to see them forthwith appeased by a just Accommodation between the Parties at War. The Conduct which his Majesty has since held, has sufficiently shewn that he persisted constantly in the same Dispositions; and having been pleased not to form for himself any Pretension that might give the least Obstacle to the Re-establishment of the Tranquility of Europe, he did not think himself obliged to take Part in the War, otherwise than by furnishing to his Allies the Succours which he found himself engaged to give them. Views so disinterested, would soon have restored Peace, if the Court of London had had as equitable and moderate Sentiments, and if she had consulted the Good and Advantage of the English Nation only. But the King of England, Elector of Hanover, had very opposite Intentions, and it was not long before it was perceived that they tended to nothing but the Kindling of a general War. Not satisfied with diverting the Court of Vienna from all Thoughts of Reconciliation, and nourishing her Animosity by the most violent Councils, he made it his whole Endeavour to irritate France, by causing her Commerce by Sea to be disturbed in all Parts, in Contempt of the Law of Nations, and of the most solemn Treaties. The Convention of Hanover, of the Month of October 1741, seemed however to

be of a Nature to calm his Majesty's Apprehensions as to the Continuation of such like Excesses; the King of England, during the Stay he made in his German Dominions, seemed to hearken to the Complaints that were made to him concerning them, and to feel the Justice of them. He gave his Royal Word that he would cause them to cease, and formally engaged not to trouble the Allies of the King in the Pursuit of their Rights; but scarce was he got back to London, but he forgot all his Promises, and as soon as he was sure that the King's Army was entirely quitting Westphalia, he declared, by his Ministers, that the Convention subsisted no longer, and that he held himself disengaged from it. Then he looked upon himself to be under no Obligation of keeping any Measures whatever, being a personal Enemy to France; he had from that Time no other Views than to raise up Enemies against her every where; this Object became the principal Point of the Instructions to his Ministers at all the Courts in Europe; the Piracies of the English Men of War increased with Cruelty and Barbarity; the Ports of the Kingdom were no longer a Protection against their Insults: In fine, the English Squadrons have dared to undertake to come and block up the Port of Toulon, stopping all Ships, making themselves Masters of their whole Cargoes; carrying off likewise the Recruits and Ammunition that his Majesty was sending to his Places. So many repeated Injuries and Outrages tired out at last his Majesty's Patience; he could not bear them any longer without being wanting to the Protection which he owes to his Subjects, to what he owes to his Allies, and to what he owes to himself, to his Honour, and to his Glory. Such are the true Motives which do not any longer suffer his Majesty to remain within the Bounds of the Moderation, which he had prescribed to himself, and which force him to declare War, as he declares it by these Presents, by Sea and by Land, against the King of England, Elector of Hanover. His Majesty orders and enjoins all his Subjects, Vassals and Servants, to fall upon the Subjects of the King of England, Elector of Hanover: Strictly forbids them to have hereafter with them any Communication, Commerce or Intelligence, upon Pain of Death; and consequently, his Majesty has from this Time revoked, and does revoke, all Permissions, Passports, Safe-Guards, and Safe-Conducts, which may have been granted by him, or by his Lieutenant-Generals, and other Officers, contrary to these Presents; and has declared, and does declare them null and of no Effect and Value, forbidding all Persons whatsoever to pay any Regard to them. His Majesty commands and orders the Duke de Penthièvre, Admiral of France, the Marshals of France, his Governors, and Lieutenant-Generals of his Provinces, and Armies, Major-Generals, Colonels of Horse and Foot, Captains, Chiefs, and Leaders of his Soldiers, as well Horse as Foot, French and Strangers, and all other his Officers whom it may concern, that they cause the Contents of these Presents to be executed, as far as

