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Westminster, January 14.

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 Charles Dalton, 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.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AT the opening of this Session of Parliament, I did not think it proper to lay any Thing before you for your Consideration, but what immediately related to the present unnatural Rebellion, and our Security at home. The daring Attempt, which the Rebels have since made upon this Part of my Kingdom, has been happily disappointed; and, as their precipitate Flight before a small Number of my Troops, must greatly dispirit their Followers; so, that inviolable Duty and Loyalty, which have been so universally and steadily shewn by my faithful Subjects, and shall never be forgotten by me, must convince them, how vain and ill-grounded their Hopes are, of any Addition of Strength from such an Enterprize. I have not only sent a considerable Body of our national Forces into Scotland, and order'd the Hessian Troops in my Pay to be landed there; but have also made such a Disposition of the rest of my Forces, by Land, as well as by Sea, that, I hope, by the Blessing of God, this Rebellion will, in a short Time, be extinguished, and our Enemies, who have so long menaced us with an Invasion, be deterr'd by the reasonable Preparations made for our Defence.

The Election of the Emperor, which I very zealously promoted, was an Event of great Importance, not only to the Support of the House of

Austria, but to the Liberties of Europe in general. I did also, during the Course of the last Year, exert my earnest Endeavours to bring about an Accommodation between the Empress, the King of Poland, and the King of Prussia, and laid a proper Foundation for it, by the Convention made between me, and the King of Prussia. This great Work being at length perfected, under my Mediation, by the Treaty lately concluded at Dresden, the interior Tranquillity of Germany amongst the Princes of the Empire is now restor'd. My next Care has been, and shall continue to be applied to improve this Accommodation to the best Advantage, by procuring an immediate Succour to be sent to Italy, and such a Strength for the Defence and Security of the United Provinces, as may preserve that Republick, the ancient and natural Ally of this Kingdom, and one main Support of the Protestant Cause, from the Destruction with which it is threatned, as well as to attain a safe and honourable Peace. The States General have made the most pressing Instances to me to assist them in this difficult Conjunction. The imminent Dangers to which they are, at present, exposed, which do so nearly affect the Safety of Great Britain, as well as the very Being of Holland, call for our most serious Attention; for the Interests of the two Nations are so united, that whatsoever brings Ruin upon the one, must, in Consequence, be attended with the most fatal Mischiefs to the other. These Reasons have induced me to assure the States, that I will, to the utmost of my Power, according to the Circumstances of my own Dominions, cooperate with them towards opposing the further Progress of our Enemies in the Netherlands, and procuring a proper Security for the Republick against the ambitious and destructive Designs of France. In order to this necessary End, Measures are now actually concerting between me, and the States, for furnishing this Assistance on my Part, as early and effectually as possible, and for their making such an Augmentation

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