

A

LETTER

From His G—— the

L— P— of all I——,

TO THE

Chevalier de St. George.

Faithfully translated from the Original
ITALIAN.

L O N D O N:

Printed by ROBERT SCOTT, 1754.

LETTER

From His G—— the

L— of all I—

THE

Chevalier de St. George.

Faithfully translated from the Original
ITALIAN

LONDON:

Printed by ROBERT SCOTT, 1794.

LETTER, &c.

Dublin, the 30th of January, 1754.

ROYAL SIR,

I WAS honoured with your Majesty's Commands of the 20th of *November*, and beg Leave to repeat my Assurances to your Majesty, of my inviolable Attachment to your Majesty's Royal Succession, and its Interests in these Kingdoms.

IN Pursuance of your Majesty's Directions, I shall proceed to lay before your Majesty, a particular Account of the State of your Majesty's Affairs, and the Progress I have made in promoting your Royal Cause. This I should have done before, but that I waited for the Determinations of some important Events, in order to communicate them to your Majesty.

IT is with infinite Pleasure I can assure your Majesty that our Undertaking prospers with astonishing Alacrity. The Hand of Providence seems indeed strongly visible in every Step; which is, doubtless, the Result of the many Masses and Intercessions your Majesty has so piously caused to be solemnized in our Behalf, and to the Benedictions poured on our Cause from the Holy Chair.

THE universal End of Heresy seems indeed to be approaching. Your Majesty's great and religious Brother of *France* is the mighty Instrument of its Demolition in that Kingdom, as I hope that I, and my Co-adjutors, shall be, under your Majesty's Influence, in This. We will therefore, as far as the Circumstances of Things will permit, follow his noble Example in the Methods of effecting the great and pious Purpose.

NOTHING, indeed, but a supernatural Interposition can Account for the surprising Circumstances of our Success. By *This* alone could the differing Passions and Pursuits of the many who are engaged in our Cause, (very few of whom have your Majesty's royal Interests in View) be rendered subservient to that one grand End; for to this one Center do they tend, as effectually as if directed thither by the most ardent Zeal.

I MUST, however, for the Sake of Justice, declare, That I do firmly believe, that these your Majesty's involuntary Assistants, are no Enemies on Principle to our most holy Religion, but would readily embrace it, were it the surest Road to the Gratification of their respective darling Pursuits. I have not, indeed, let them into the whole of the Scheme, because they are accomplishing it, on their own Motives, to my Heart's Desire.

By the same Assistance from *above*, and the Mediations of the *Saints*, without peradventure, it has been effected, that many, very many, whose temporal Interests must unavoidably be for ever ruined by their own Conduct, and who, from their reputed Inflexibility, strong Connexions with the Welfare of this Island, and immense Possessions, should seem to be *uncomeatable*, have been the Foremost of our Auxiliaries. We were inspired with the Thought of trying Them, and They fell at the first Touch into our Hand. Some we caught by holding up a tinsel'd Title; for They were too big for Pensions. To another we shewed a Glimpse of the Privy

Privy Council, and he ran at it like a Madman, thro' Dirt and Dunghill, overturning Friends, Relations, Posterity, and all that is dear and precious to Man when free from Infatuation.

ANOTHER we hooked by a Place or Pension to his Uncle, or Cousin, and telling him, that *in good Manners* he could not oppose us. Others we brought in by —, in good Faith I can hardly tell your Majesty how, but I think it was by a little pompous Puff, and Parade, and Varnish—: In short, by the Force of that Blessing which furthers, unseen, our every Attempt; for no *natural* Reason can possibly be assigned even by Themselves.

As for the *Minores Gentium*, who came within the Sphere of pecuniary Influence, the Argument to them was short; we bribed them with — (your Majesty will laugh —) with *their own* Money. The Treasury Officers were very convenient on that Occasion; a Set of honest Gentlemen. Several more came over to us (some of them had quitted us when we first came into Power, that they might be purchasable) for Collections *in Nubibus*; and eight came in a String on a Promise of the same vacant Commissionership, which our Friends in *England* keep as a Tit-bit for the next General Election.

SURE nothing was so providential for your Majesty's Interests as the present A—————n in this Kingdom. I shrug myself when I think of it. The D——y is doating, yet positive enough in all we bid him; and his Son—Oh, Sir! he's an excellent Youth——He has every Quality requisite for our Undertaking: He is bold, rash, sanguine, and insatiably ambitious; has a glib Tongue, and a volatile Brain; holds this People in the lowest Contempt, and has a Spirit not to be baffled by Disappointment. He and I are as great as Brothers, and agree cordially in every Step toward enslaving this People, tho' he carries his View no farther than his own Elevation; while I hope to draw from thence the most desirable Effects for your Majesty's Interests,

to which, as is my Duty, I ever keep a most respectful Eye.

IF Heaven should crown your Majesty's Endeavours, I must humbly beg Leave to recommend this young Gentleman to your Majesty's Favour, as one who would be peculiarly useful in a System of Government like that which your Majesty, in Imitation of your royal Ancestors, would doubtless vouchsafe to adopt. The Spirits of these People have been so long inured to Liberty, they will want a vigorous Dragoon; and, as he is no Bigot to his Religion, I doubt not of his being easily converted. He is a wondrous Admirer of our Dispensations.

WITH the Assistances I have mentioned, and the Accession of the Interest of an old Nobleman, indefatigable in railing his Family any how, and a determined Enemy of our Antagonists, we fell to work. His Son was to be, by our Aid, put in the Place of that detested BOYLE, (so often anathematized by your Majesty and your Adherents) and to succeed to his Influence in the House of Commons—that is, if our Schemes would admit of the Existence of a House of Commons, which, I verily think, in their mildest Consequences, they would not.

OUR first grand Point was to drain the Treasury, and this, as your Majesty will suppose, we chose to make, if possible, *their own Act*; pray your Majesty observe how this Point coincided with the Schemes of All. The Ministry on the other Side (the greatest State Botchers sure that ever were at the Helm) wanted this Money, particularly at this Time, to save their Bacon at the ensuing General Election, and would be very glad to have the Treasury at their Discretion for ever after. The Gentry they sent over are faithful to their Directions, and my Friend the S——y was particularly zealous; for he had in View both his own Share of the Plunder, and also the Facility which must accrue to his private

private Schemes of Domination by wounding the Prosperity, and consequently breaking the insolent Spirit of the People. As for my Part, your Majesty will imagine how heartily I embraced a Project tending so directly to the Advancement of your Majesty's Interests here. The *English* Genius has taken such Root in this Island, that nothing but an Introduction of universal Calamity, and at the same time poisoning the Minds of the well-affected against the Family on the Throne, can pave the Way to the Designs of your Majesty's Friends. Both these Purposes, your Majesty, and every other Person, with half an Eye, must see to be the immediate and necessary Consequence of this Scheme: For a Nation sunk to the Depths of Poverty will ever wish for a Change, and Ministerial Measures will ever be charged to the Sovereign's Account. In short, I thought it a perfectly providential Design, and came into it with all my Might.

To try our Strength, however, we first took up the Defence of the poor unlucky Rogue whom our Adversaries began to maul last Session, and spared upon the *solemn Promise* of our Leader, the D——y, that he should be punished by his Master: Most of our Party, Royal Sir, are entire Profelytes to that Article of our Religion which dispenses with keeping Faith with Heretics; and accordingly he got this Fellow Leave to fill his Pockets with the Sale of his Employments—an odd Kind of Punishment, your Majesty will say!—The cursed C——s, however, resolved to vindicate their Dignity, and we undertook to bring him thro' in Spite of their Teeth. Your Majesty will say the *Cause* threw no great Lustre upon us, but we could not help it: If we could have got them on the wrong Side, we would have taken the right.

Nobody would believe that such Constancy, as we, to our great Surprise and Vexation, experienced, could exist in Human Nature. That in less than
three

three hundred Men there should be found so many impregnable to all that Power, Corruption, and Menaces could supply !—In short, we were baffled, and the poor Devil was demolished. But the Majority was but small, and we were puffed with Expectation, tho' covered with Shame.

I SHALL not detain your Royal Attention by a Detail of any intermediate Occurrences ; but in general inform you, that we got in among them a couple of very honest Gentlemen, true Catholics in their Hearts, and of Extraction unsullied with Heresy ; and another who is not only *Orthodox* in Religion, but of the most invariable Principles in Favour of your Majesty's Succession, deduced from a Series of Ancestors distinguished in the glorious Cause, and confirmed by all the Influence which parental Instruction and foreign Conversation could bestow. And indeed, the many Fatalities which concurred to his Success bespeak sufficiently his uncommon Merit.

THESE Recruits put us in Spirits, and to work we went to pass the Money-Bill, with an Addition, which by its direct Consequence enabled *the Ministry* to call away every Penny that is now, and hereafter may be, redundant in the Treasury, *by the King's Letter* ; and then, crack ! went the Nation in a few Weeks *for ever*. But this damned House of C——s—Good your Majesty, do not leave even the Shadow of that hateful Body in Existence, when you are restored to Power ; they ever were, and ever will be, a Stumbling-Block to Dominion both SPIRITUAL and TEMPORAL—To ease your Royal Suspense, they crushed our Scheme by a pitiful Superiority of Five—To be so near the Mark, yet miss it, throws me almost out of that Composure I have laboured to attain, in order to address your Majesty as becomes me——

THAT hated BOYLE (I call the Saints to witness with how true a theologic Rancour I detest his Name !) was the Head and Spirit of the Opposition.

tion. On the single Thread of his Life hung the Fate of a Nation ! It pleased Heaven to preserve it, that the Merit of your Majesty's Adherents may be enhanced by an Increase of Difficulty. This Man and all of his Progenitors were Enemies of your Royal Succession and their Plan of Government ; and He in particular, when your Majesty's Royal Sister was piously forming the Scheme of ceding to your Majesty the Throne of these Kingdoms, and had caused the Doctrine of your Royal indefeasible Right to be universally spread and received, He was one of those Few who opposed it to the Hazard of their Lives, and the certain Loss of all Favour—I am told his Sword was hardly ever in its Scabbard for four Years together—an obdurate, bloody-minded Heretic ! and so provokingly cool and uniform withal !

The only Consolation I had on this Defeat was, that the very Attempt has raised an Outcry against the Government that is Music to my Ear, tho' I am included in a large Share of it. This in some Sort will answer our Design ; and to distress the People the more, we have obliged the Treasury Officers to turn all the Bills into Cash, which is above half of the current Coin of the Kingdom. By this Means, there passes hardly a Day but I am regaled with an Account of Bankruptcies, and other Calamities, from all Parts of the Nation. What a Pickle would they be in, should we carry it away !

SINCE we could not make them betray themselves, we came to a Resolution of taking a new Course ; and away we dispatched our second S——y (a young Fellow of an excellent Head-piece, and great hereditary Integrity) with proper Credentials ; adjourned the Parliament, and in a Post or two had four of the Ring-leaders *turned out* of their Places FOR DARING TO DEFEND THEIR COUNTRY. I own, I was in Love with this Scheme of PERSECUTION, so necessary for the Support of our present Designs, and the Preservation of the DIGNITY OF POWER ; and 'till the holy *Inquisition* can be erected, and *Gallies* built, this seems to be the most desirable Method. The S——y and I

are for having all the others displaced ; but others are for leaving these alone on the Gibbet, *in Terrorem*, against the Meeting of the Parliament, whom the same Advisers are for suffering to sit, to try our Strength there after making ourselves thus formidable.

This Scheme, your Majesty may observe, comes from a cautious Adviser ; for my Part, I do believe that our late Proceeding will, so far from intimidating, increase the Number of our Opponents in the House, and perhaps, incense them to some vigorous Resolutions destructive of all our Measures. There is a natural Love of Liberty, and Hatred of tyrannical Oppression, implanted by Nature in the Minds of these Heretics ; nor can they be brought to believe, that they should be restrained in the Bounds prescribed by their spiritual and temporal Rulers. The cursed Effects of independent Property !——All whom we have deceived in our Delineation of Matters will infallibly fly off from us ; for we have thrown off the Mask ; and they can hardly be so stupid as to think, that by such violent anti-constitutional Proceedings, we mean *nothing* but the Dignity of the Crown ; for *that*, a Child may see, is derogated from by every Incroachment on PARLIAMENTARY LIBERTY.

IN short, their Reasonings on this Event will be endless, and we shall infallibly lose them, unless they be metamorphosed into Stocks or Stones. Many others too will be probably so disgusted as to desert us, tho' retained in our Pay, and the deuce a Varnish have we now left for our *Cause*. It is really too rotten to be touched ; for which Reason I am for *proroguing*, and in the mean Time transmit the Bone of Dispute *bodily* to *England*, and let our 'Squires go back to the Plough, and look for their Remedy.

This, it is true, is a *bold* Stroke ; but it is a *sure* one, and our Game is desperate. Others are for *dissolving*, and getting a new Parliament by the Dint of Corruption, and Sheriffs, (whom we are, at all Hazards, most industriously culling out) and by Means of *That*, get Votes and Resolutions to authorize our Measures ;

Measures; and afterwards clinch the Matter with a *Land-Tax* and *Union*. But, I fear, we should not be bettered by a new one; and, on the whole, it is a tedious and a precarious Scheme.

As we have a Multiplicity of Counsellors, so I cannot certainly inform your Majesty which of these Projects will take Place; but I hope to be able to convert the Event to your Majesty's Service.

YOUR Majesty will see, by this Account, that we have done a great deal for the Time, but that there remains a great deal to be done. The penal and disqualifying Laws in Force here have taken all permanent Property out of the Hands of Catholics; yet they are a very moneyed Set, and are revived in their Spirit and Expectations from the Steps we have taken; all their Meetings are crowned with your Majesty's Health, and Wishes for our Success, of which they plainly see the Consequences. This, indeed, and our Adversaries consisting almost entirely of Men long distinguished for their Zeal for the Family on the Throne, and now loaded with every possible Mark of Disgrace, throws an Odium upon us, which, while we endeavour to disguise our Designs, we wished to avoid; but now we are got above that.

I AM sorry to say that the People, in general, are our implacable Enemies. Addresses and Associations every Day bespeak the Flame they are put in by the (very just) Apprehensions of losing all that is dear to them, and also their violent Resentment at the Representatives who *betrayed their Trust, and sold those committed to their Care*, which I assure your Majesty they did with as much Composure and Unconcern as they would sell their Oxen or Sheep, and with the same Earnestness in raising the Price.

THIS Metropolis (a formidable Body!) detest Us as the Devil. The moneyed Men are a powerful Weight, and the Mob a diabolical one; God grant they do not *De-Wit* the S——y or me, or both; we are in confounded stew. To counter-balance this City, we have nothing (excepting Straglers) but the

Corporation of *Cork*; and they do us but little Credit, for they are so irretrievably stupid that, I believe, they would suffer us to barrel them in the Place of their Beef, if their Master, the Commissioner, whom we have at our Beck, were to tell them it was for their Good. They complimented us for pursuing the *true Interests* of the Nation; I beg your Majesty will make that your Landing-Place when you come to take Possession of this Kingdom, and I will engage to procure you a gold Box, and most favourable Reception among them, *for the true Interest of the Protestant Religion.*

HOWEVER, we have the Disposal of Places, which will ever supply us with *Friends*. The Commissioners are ours plump, and their Influence is extensive. The Bishops, (very few excepted) go, as they ever have done, where Power was combating with Patriotism, and the Clergy follow their respective Leaders. The Judges were never more devoted to your Royal Grandfather, of pious Memory, than they are now to Us. Most of the Lawyers are ours also, though the best Spokesmen are at t'other Side. We have, just now, given them some Encouragement to stick by us, by rewarding the Services of one of them with a Place of Honour; torn from one of the insolent Commoners, and this the old Knave (for tho' in his Principles he and his are ardent for your Majesty; yet, between ourselves, he is grown Grey in hypocritical Vileness) struts in his plundered Pageantry with all the Vanity of a Boy; and is become the Derision even of us who employ him.

THE Army I wish I was as sure of. They are not quite *French* enough for my liking, and they are not sufficiently mercenary to be bribed. It is true, they are very respectful to Power, but that is from a polite Turn which accompanies the Profession. They have ever been in these Kingdoms a confounded uncomplying Obstacle to Schemes like ours; I can't forget the slippery Trick they played your Majesty's Royal Father on the Landing of his Antagonist. They scorn, forsooth, to be made the Instruments of enslaving a
free

free People—I have no Patience with a Soldier's pretending to *think* or *chuse*; they are paid to obey ORDERS; and I would have them as servile and as tyrannical as my own Dean of *Armagh*.

OUR P—s, (a notable Set) are so busy in spending their Fortunes that they can't spare Time to preserve them. Very few of them, beside that damned officious *Kildare*, either know or care what becomes of the Country they live by. This is extremely lucky; for did they duly attend their House, our Bishops (who almost always make the Majority) would be overborne, and, perhaps, some vigorous Step taken, which, adding its Weight to the Resolution of the Commons, may be irresistibly dangerous to our Schemes. But now the P—s House is all our own, and the Addresses as sweet as Sugar.

FROM all this, Royal Sir, I retain great Hopes. Nothing I dread so much as the *English* Commons interposing. They may think, perhaps, that an Attempt on any Part of INTEGRAL LIBERTY may affect and weaken the Whole; that PARLIAMENTARY FREEDOM is the common Cause of all; that it may be their own Turn next; that the Treasure plundered from hence will enrich but a few Individuals, who will turn it as a formidable Weapon at the ensuing Election against their own national Interests, while by this Kingdom being ruined theirs will be deprived of all that Wealth which by means of our Industry centers and circulates with them; while *Ireland*, spoiled of its Liberties and Blessings, must become a Nation of Desperadoes, a constant Thorn in their Side, and ready to join in every dangerous Attempt with the disaffected *Scots*, to which their Contiguity to *Scotland* may the more contribute——In short, they may certainly see very ugly Consequences from our Measures, and, should they interpose, *conclamatum est*. They may be the more ready to quarrel too, as they almost universally detest our Supporters there.

WHENEVER I do smile (which is but seldom in my Heart) it is at our taking Steps in this Island, which
in

in *England* would have brought us into Impeachments and *Præmunire's*, and in all Probability to the Scaffold and Gallows, with a Majority in the House of Commons against us. Yet *here* we do it with Impunity, and, among some, with Applause. But *we know* we are in *Ireland*, and what Redress can *Ireland* meet if it will betray itself? And yet if the Fools would stand firm by each other they are secure enough, and we should be hunted out of the Kingdom with Shame and Ignominy.

THEY are much better worth taking Pains about now than they were in the Time of your Royal Father. Individuals are opulent, and the Country miraculously improved; for, to give the Devil his due, the Gentry we have superceded did make it prosper to some Purpose.

FOR my own Part, Royal Sir, tho' I am too modest to puff my own Merits, yet I must say I have suffered an infinite deal in your Majesty's Cause. Many sleepless anxious Nights do I toss on my Bed of Down, wishing for Morn to relieve me from myself. Innumerable are the Heart-akes, the Fears, and Disappointments that rend my Breast. Wherever I shew my Head I am conscious of being followed with Imprecations, and every Fellow-Creature I see, looks on me as on an avowed Enemy to the Society. All my *little Foibles* are exposed; I am sneered at by the Women, and hooted by the Mob. In the Midst of these Mortifications your Majesty may easily suppose my state of Mind. Nothing but a Soul exquisitely adapted to the Projects I have undertaken could support me. I assure your Majesty, that in all the Glare of Pomp and Power, amidst my numerous Train of Sycophants and idolizing Slaves, I stand the most miserable Creature of the Species.

I HAD almost forgot to tell your Majesty that the S——y insisted on *bamming* the *damned Irish* with a Story of a Cock and a Bull, and producing legal Arguments for picking their Pockets. He thinks the People greater Asses than I do, so I thought it better
to

to let it alone, and say nothing about a Matter that would not bear to be touched; but I was over-ruled. Who should be the Writer was then the Question, and a hard one it was; for our Side is devilishly off as to Writers. One of them, (a Rogue!) cost me a sight of Money, but being paid beforehand writ such cursed Stuff that I was obliged to stop his Hand; for it set all the World in a Grin. Another, who *would* write whether I would or not, was so buffeted by a bearish *Country Gentleman*, that he is almost mad; and not only that, but he got us, and our Measures, a Scourging into the Bargain.

WE had, therefore, Recourse to some of our Judges and Lawyers, who club'd for the Performance, and puzzled the Matter as well as it could bear. It is written in the Mode of that Syllogism which your Majesty must have met with among the Jesuits, which *demonstrates* that a Man is an *Ass* or an *Ox*. The cunning Rogues have most ingeniously begged the Question all along; confounded *Assent* and *Consent*; endeavoured to fix Prerogative on *Implication*, (tho' it *must not be abridged by Implication*.) For the Usage (which alone can be the Support of Prerogative where it is not settled by Statute) is but of four Years standing, and makes undeniably against us. They will allow no Precedent, however, but what is in our Favour, which in this Case, I think, they might have *legally* phrased a *subsequent Precedent*. Then it is dashed so prettily with Constitutional Anecdotes, and Parliamentary Quotations, and dressed up in such pretty Language (tho' it smells a little of the *Lawyer*) that on the Whole it is really very moving.

WE got it neatly printed to please the Eye, (which, after all, must be the leading Power in any One this Book can convince) and away we sent it to all our Sheriffs and Creatures, throughout the Kingdom, FOR HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE. I wish it may be lucky enough to make the People believe that all our *Zeal*, our *Mennaces*, our *Bribery*, and our PERSECUTION, took their Rise from the noble Source of preserving the
 Royal

Royal Prerogative, without one single *interested* View ; and that we have used a Series of the *lowest Arts, deepest Dissimulation, and vilest Corruption*, in the Honesty and Simplicity of our Hearts, in order *purely and merely* to compass the *best of Purposes* ; in short, that for the Advantage of *the Crown* we endeavour to trample on its BEST FRIENDS, and to benefit *the Country* we are burning, to rob it of its Treasure.

If any Gloom appears thro' the Turn of this Letter, I beg your Majesty will impute it to my Reflections on the tragical Catastrophe of the Day ; the dreadful, impious, Murder of that best of Princes, that true well-wisher of the Holy Religion, and hearty Abettor of its Efforts in this Kingdom—I will not dwell on the shocking Theme to your Majesty's Piety, but only assure your Majesty that the Example of him, your Royal Grandfather, cannot appear more precious, or more worthy of Imitation, to your Majesty, than does that of his beatified Servant, STRAFFORD, to the V— R— of this Island, and that of his martyred Counsellor and Spiritual Director, LAUD, in the Eye of,

Royal S I R,

Your Majesty's

ever devoted,

and dutiful

Subject and Servant,

G * * . A * * * * *