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A
LETTER

FROM A

Member of Parliament

TO A

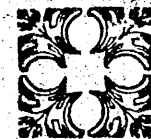
Friend in the Country,

CONCERNING

The Sum of 115,000 *l.*

Granted for the SERVICE of the

CIVIL LIST.



LONDON:

Printed for J. WALKER, near Temple-Bar, 1729.

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A

LETTER, &c.

S I R,

YOUR Questions to me concerning the late Grant of 115,000 *l.* upon Account of Arrears in his present Majesty's *Civil List Revenues*, will, in a great Measure, be answered by the inclosed *Protests*; wherein you will find the principal Arguments relating to that Matter clearly and fully stated; but as you desire a more particular Information upon some Points than could be contained in Acts of that Kind, I shall endeavour to give you Satisfaction in this Respect; and in order to it observe how the *Civil List Revenues* were settled upon his Majesty's Royal Predecessors, and in what Manner they are now settled on his present Majesty.

By an Act passed in the 9th and 10th Year of King *William*, the Parliament settled upon him for Life for the Uses of his Civil Government a Sum certain, or Rent Charge of *seven hundred thousand Pounds per Ann.* to arise from several Duties and Revenues, which if they produced more than that Sum, the *Surplus* was to

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be reserved for the Disposition of Parliament; and if, by any Accident, they should fall short of that Sum within any one Year, there was no Obligation on the Parliament to make good any such *Deficiency*.

By another Act pass'd in the 12th and 13th of his Reign, the Parliament charged 192400 *l. per Ann.* by a Deduction of 3700 *l. per Week* out of the hereditary and temporary Excise, Part of the Revenues granted to the King by the former Act, for raising a Sum of Money for the Publick Services of the Year, and then left the Revenues and Duties to the King without Account for any *Surplus*, as well as without any Claim on the Publick to make good *Deficiencies*, it being well judg'd that there was no likelyhood of a *Surplus*, after such a *Deduction*.

Upon King *William's* Death, the same Revenues were in the same Manner settled upon *Q. Anne* for her Life, charged likewise with the Expences of Management and to be without Account, as to any *Surplus*, and without any Claim for a *Deficiency*; That they did not produce one Year with another, upon a *Medium*, during the whole Course of her Majesty's Reign, a clear Sum of 600,000 *l.* is beyond Dispute; and this Sum was charged as in the former Reign with 35500 *l.* for *Pensions* from which the *present Civil List* is discharged. The same Revenues were in the same Manner at first settled upon his late Majesty *K. George*; but the Parliament soon after turn'd that Settlement into a Rent Charge of 700,000 *l. per Annum*,

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Annum, and took 120,000 *l. per Ann.* out of the aggregate Fund, to compleat that Rent Charge, which was to commence from *Michaelmas* 1715; and if the Civil List Revenues, with that additional 120,000 *l.* produced more than the 700,000 *l.* the *Surplus* was to be accounted for to the Publick; and it was accounted for accordingly from Time to Time, and placed to the Sinking Fund; and upon a *Medium* of the whole Reign, one Year with another, has produced 65000 *l.* and upwards, and in the five last Years near 100,000 *l.* Upon this State of the Revenues it was propos'd, at his present Majesty's Accession to the Throne, by the *honourable Gentleman*, who now presides at the Treasury, that the several Revenues and Duties settled for the Uses of the Civil Government in the late King's Reign, together with the 120,000 *l.* out of the aggregate Fund, should be granted to his Majesty, not in the Nature of a Rent Charge, but absolutely and without Account; it being asserted by the *same Gentleman*, that they would, in all Likelihood, produce at least 800,000 *l. per Ann.* one Year with another; and one principal Motive for this Encrease of 100,000 *l. per Ann.* more than had been settled on the late King, was the making an *honourable Provision for all the Royal Family*. Thus it was propos'd, understood, and agreed to, by the House; but when the Bill was brought in there appeared the *Clause*, which hath given Occasion to this late Dispute; how this Clause came to be inserted, since it was not agreeable to the Resolution, on which the Bill was order'd to be brought in, nor directed by any subsequent Instruction, I shall not at present

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consider; but must assert, that such a Construction as is now put upon it was never apprehended, or could be conceived, by any one Gentleman then in Parliament, or even by those who inserted this Clause.

THE Case stands thus. By the Act of the first of the King, *for the better Support of his Majesty's Household, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of Great Britain*, his Majesty is to enjoy all the Civil List Revenues, with the 120,000*l.* out of the aggregate Fund, without Account for any *Surplusses*, over and above 800,000*l. per Annum*, however considerable they may happen to be in any Year; and yet the Publick, by a Clause in the same Act, is to make good *Deficiencies*; or as the Clause for giving the 115,000*l.* has construed it, any *Arrears* of these Revenues standing out and not paid into the *Exchequer*, at *Midsummer Day*, to compleat 800,000*l. per Annum*.

Now considering this Case on the Foot of a *Deficiency* only, the Disadvantage to the Publick will appear to be very great. The most considerable Branches of the Civil List Revenues are in the Nature of them, liable to vary from Year to Year; the Interruptions, or Decay of Trade and other Accidents must necessarily lessen the Produce of the *Customs*. Other Causes may in the same Year lessen the Produce of the *Excise*. The Publick is to make good the *Deficiencies*, and consequently the Taxes on the People are to increase as their Losses and Misfortunes do, and even on account of those very Losses and Misfortunes,
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and they are to pay more as they grow less able to pay at all; on the contrary, the Crown cannot in any Event, receive less than 800,000*l. per Annum*, and may often have the Benefit of a *Surplus* from those Causes, which had brought a Burthen on the People; for as the Importations are hindred in one Year, they will according to the Course of Trade increase in another.

IF then the Disadvantage to the People is so great, by their being only obliged to make good casual and real *Deficiencies*, how much greater must it be upon the present Construction of the Clause, by which it is asserted that the Publick is obliged to compleat whatever Sum is wanting of the full 800,000*l.* actually received into the *Exchequer*, the very *Midsummer Day* the Year ends? Altho' there are *Arrears* standing out in Bills of Exchange, Money in the Receivers and Collectors Hands, more than sufficient to make up this Sum; and it is evident that it is impossible the Taxes can be collected, much less Remitted to the *Exchequer* in *London*, from all Parts of *Great Britain*, the very Day upon which they become due. These are such *Arrears* as I believe there is not a Man in the Kingdom but will agree, that the Parliament, at the Time of passing this Clause, neither thought nor intended should ever be made good by the People. For these are such *Arrears*, as it was well known, must be unavoidable to a certain Degree in every Year, and may, at any Time, be increas'd by a *designing and corrupt Minister*, to any Sum he thinks fit; and this, without appearing to give Directions to the Officers of the Revenue; but by
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a bare Connivance only, by the Negligence of a Treasurer in not quickening Payments, or by forgetting, for many Years, whole Branches of the Revenue, as happen'd not long ago, *in the memorable Case of the Hawkers and Pedlars*; so that let the Net Produce of the Revenues be never so great, these pretended Arrears are to be made good by the *Land Tax*, or other Supplies of the Year. Thus the well-known Author of a * Pamphlet, published in the Year 1713, may assume the Merit of having himself accomplished what he then foretold, and seem'd to apprehend very much, *that a Land or Malt Tax* might be made at last an *Hereditary Revenue for the Support of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown*.

THERE is another Method of making the Appearance of *Arrears*, when in Truth there are none, or of making them seem more considerable than they really are, by anticipating part of the Revenues, and directing the paying Money out of the respective Offices of the Receipt of the Revenues, for the Uses of the Civil Government before they are paid into the Exchequer; by which means a Parliament may be misled, as might have happened upon this Occasion, if some Omissions in the Accounts delivered by the *Secretary of the Treasury* had not been rectified by those called for by *other Gentlemen*.

THIS Practice is of the most dangerous Consequence to the Publick; for it subverts all the wise Regulations, and Checks established by our
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* *Vide Pamphlet, A short History of the Parliament. Writ by R----- W-----, Esq.*

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Ancestors, for the due Collection and just and faithful Disposition of the Revenues of the Crown; since by this clandestine Manner of issuing them, the Payments do not appear upon the proper *Record*, as the Law requires. And the Revenues may consequently be easily dissipated and not accounted for; and it will be very difficult to know certainly what the Produce or Receipt has really been, without making such a strict Scrutiny as a *conscious Minister* will either directly oppose, or endeavour to frustrate by giving Directions to perplex, if not to falsify Accounts.

To state both these Cases in private Life: Suppose you had settled upon your Son an Estate which was to *answer* and *satisfy* to him every Year the Sum of 500 *l.* and that by a Contrivance between him and the Steward, the Son takes from the Tenants 100 *l.* before the Rent is paid to the Steward, and this Money never appears in the Steward's Account; is this to be deem'd a *Deficiency*, and the Father oblig'd to make it good? No; for it is manifest the Son, in this Case, would have 600 *l.* a Year; and is it not as plain in the other Case, that if at the End of the Year your Son had received only 400 *l.* in Money, though the Tenants had paid their full Rent, and the remaining 100 *l.* was standing out in a Bill of Exchange, or in the Steward's Hands in the Country, should you think yourself obliged to pay him the 100 *l.* nay, to pay it after he had actually received it in Money by Payment of the Bill of Exchange, or from the Hands of the Steward? and yet this

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this is exactly the present Case between the Crown and the People, as I shall show presently; but I think it necessary first to acquaint you with the Steps taken upon this Occasion.

THE first Step taken in this Affair was by a Motion of the *Secretary of the Treasury*, for an Address to the King that the proper Officers might be directed to lay before the House of Commons an Account of the *Produce* of the Civil List Revenues within the Year from Midsummer 1727, to Midsummer 1728, over and above the annual, weekly, or other Payments and Incumbrances thereon, and over and above all Grants made by any of his Majesty's Predecessors.

THOUGH the Design of this Motion was easily apprehended, yet it was a Surprize to many Gentlemen that it should be made so late in the Session, and after the Recess of Easter, and when it was generally understood that there was no farther Demand of Money to be made; since it related to an Account said by the *Gentlemen*, who made the Motion, to have been closed at Midsummer 1728, and consequently proper in every Respect (if at all) to have been brought in very early in the Session, and to have been considered in a full House; but the Surprize of Gentlemen was still greater, when the Accounts were laid before the House, and it appeared that, contrary to the Words of the Address, and the King's Answer, they were made up not upon the *real, Net Produce* of the Revenues, but upon what was called the *Net Receipt*

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Receipt within the Year, and that this material Alteration was made by Directions from the *Treasury* and by Letters writ to the several Offices by the *same Gentleman*, who had moved the Address for the *Produce*. It was therefore moved that these Papers should be referred to a *private Committee*, with Power to send for such other Accounts, and to call before them and examine such Officers of the Revenue as they judg'd necessary, and then to report to the House a true State of the Fact, and whether it did appear to them that there really was such a *Deficiency* in the *Produce* of the Civil List Revenues, as the *Act* requires should be made good.

BUT this Motion was oppos'd by the *Gentleman at the Head of the Treasury* and the *Secretary*, who deliver'd these Accounts. When the Gentlemen, who made this Motion, were refused this Committee, (an Indulgence, it was hoped, would have been thought reasonable in a Case of such Intricacy and Consequence.) They then begg'd that at least it might be considered in a *full House*; that all Leaves of Absence might be revok'd, and the Members summoned to attend, as had been usual upon Business of less Importance; but this was likewise refused, being oppos'd by the said *Two Gentlemen*.

THE Members, who had been so unsuccessful in these Motions, then moved for several Accounts from the Offices; and being afterwards apprehensive of not obtaining these Accounts in Time, they moved for the Attendance

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dance of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, the Post-Masters General and other Officers of the Revenue, in order to have all the Light they could possibly obtain, in an Affair they thought of the utmost Importance.

I WILL not trouble you with the many Differences and Contradictions which there are between all the Accounts first delivered from the respective Offices, and the Account from the Exchequer, nor the particular Differences between them and the last Accounts which were called for, and are in some Instances very extraordinary; but you will see the Alteration they make in the general Ballance of the Account, by the annex'd *Abstract*, which is farther undeniably confirmed by the remarkable Resolution which the House came to after the Examination of the Officers of the Revenue, and comparing together the different Accounts brought upon this Occasion.

By the Account brought in and signed by the Secretary of the Treasury, the 115,000*l.* is stated as a *Deficiency*. In the *Resolution* and in the Clause of *Appropriation*, it is called an *Arrear*, and an *Arrear to be replaced and refunded*. By the annexed Account you will find there was so far from being a *Deficiency*, that the Produce of the Year was 912,649*l.* of which 708,368*l.* was actually received in Money in *London* before Midsummer 1728. Received since in Money 128,115*l.* and standing out in Arrears in April last 76,165*l.* which whenever they come in must be accounted as the Produce of that Year, from Midsummer
1727,

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1727, to Midsummer 1728. It does not indeed appear by the Accounts laid before the two Houses, at what Times the Arrears were paid in, as it might have done, if all the Accounts called for had been given; but from the Nature of the Arrears, such as Bills of Exchange, Money in the Hands of Receivers, or Charges by them made in their Accounts for Duties incurred, it is certain the greatest Part must have been paid within Six Weeks, or sooner, after Midsummer 1728; so that the Crown gives Credit to its own Estate for a few Weeks only; whereas by this Clause, according to the most plausible Construction, which has been endeavoured to be put upon it, the Publick is to lend his Majesty 115,000*l.* without Interest during his Life; and how unlikely this Money is to be ever replaced without a manifest Injury to the Servants and other Creditors of the Crown at the Time of the Demise, need not be explained to those, who have felt or heard of Losses of the same Kind upon the late Demise; and that some People never intend it should be repaid, I think appears plainly by their opposing the Motion that was made to repay this Sum out of the growing annual Surplus of the Revenues above 800,000*l.* a Year.

I HOPE you will excuse my Endeavours to give you the fullest Information I could upon some Points; although it has unavoidably led me to repeat some Things, which are much better expressed in the *Protests*. And now give me Leave, in as short and clear a Manner as I can, to set this Matter before you.

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THE Revenues granted to King WILLIAM, and granted only towards the End of his Reign, were limited to 700,000 *l.* and soon afterwards reduced. It is likewise certain that those granted to the late Queen did not amount, one Year with another, to 600,000 *l.* out of which, in the first Eight Years of her Reign, she gave to the Use of the War, and other publick Occasions, above 700,000 *l.* The late King had 700,000 *l.* a Year, out of which 100,000 *l.* was settled upon his present Majesty, then Prince of *Wales*. His present Majesty's Revenues are 800,000 *l.* a Year at least; and it must be remembred that the Grants of Pensions in former Reigns amounting to 35,500 *l.* per *Ann.* which were paid out of the Civil List during the Reigns of King WILLIAM, Queen ANNE and his late Majesty, until some few Years before his Death, and were then, by some Words inserted at the End of a Clause in a Revenue Act, charged upon the Publick; this Charge being therefore taken from the Crown, must be reckoned as so much Increase to its Revenue.

I SHALL now annex the Account which I have collected from the several Papers laid before both Houses of Parliament; by which it plainly appears that the *Produce* of the Civil List Revenues was sufficient to answer and satisfy according to the Act of Parliament, the Sum of 800,000 *l.* and that there were no Arrears due to compleat that Sum as the *Protests* of the Lords declares there were not, when the Grant was made of the 115,000 *l.*

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IF we add to this the Land Revenues, which are anticipated by Debentures, Fines and Forfeitures; the Sales of Wood, which were always accounted for in the late Queen's Time; the Principality of *Wales*; all the Civil List Revenues of *Scotland*, of all which there is neither any Account of Produce or Disposition; It must be granted that the Revenues of the Crown for this Year at least, were more than a Land Tax at 2 *s.* in the Pound.

BESIDES, as this Revenue was given for making an *honourable Provision for the whole Royal Family*, and his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, (who now, to our great Joy, is amongst us) continued abroad during this Year, the Expence of 100,000 *l.* which was the Revenue his present Majesty enjoy'd, when Prince of *Wales*, was for this Time saved to the Crown.

BEFORE I conclude, I must acquaint you that several of the most material Accounts not being brought in till late the Night before, and some the same Morning, it was moved that considering that there had been no time for perusing them, and the Fatigue Gentlemen had undergone the Day before upon a very late Attendance on an Election at the Bar, it was moved that the farther Consideration of this Affair might be adjourn'd to another Day; but this was not agreed to; and after the Examination of the Commissioners of the Customs and Excise, the Postmaster General and the other Officers of the Revenue, which lasted till past Nine at Night, it was again proposed, with the same ill Success, to adjourn the farther Consideration of this Affair till the next Morning.

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L I S T

Of such as voted for or against granting 115,000*l.* for making good the Arrears of the CIVIL LIST.

For

SIR Robert Walpole, Knt. of the Garter.
 Right Hon. George Lord Viscount Malpas.
 Right Hon. Lord Vere Beauclerk.
 Right Hon. Lord Glenorchy.
 Right Hon. Richard Lord Visc. Fitzwilliams.
 Right Hon. Lord James Cavendish.
 Right Hon. Richard Lord Visc. Castlemain.
 Right Hon. Lord Viscount Percival.
 Right Hon. Lord Viscount Gage.
 Right Hon. Henry Lord Marquis of Carnarvon.
 Right Hon. William Lord Visc. Grimston.
 Right Hon. William Lord Marquis of Hartington.
 Right Hon. John Ld. Visc. Galway.
 Right Hon. Lord Charles Cavendish.

Right

Against.

Right Hon. James Lord Visc. Limerick.
 Right Hon John Lord Visc. Tyrconnel.
 Right Hon. Henry Lord Visc. Morpeth.
 Right Hon. Walter Lord Visc. Chetwynd.
 Right Hon. William Lord Visc. Vane.

Right

For.

Right Hon. Daniel Lord Finch.
 Right Hon. Lord Henry Powlet.
 Right Hon. Lord William Powlet.
 Right Hon. Lord Nassau Powlet.
 Rt. Hon. Earl of Inchequin.
 Right Hon. Lord William Beauclerk.
 Right Hon. Henry Lord Visc. Palmerston.
 Right Hon. Richard Lord Shannon.
 Right Hon. Joseph Lord Micklethwaite.
 Hon. Pattee Byng, Esq;
 Sir William Yonge, Knt. of the Bath.
 John Orlebar, Esq;
 James Metcalfe, Esq;
 Robert Hucks, Esq;
 Hon. John Fane, Esq;
 Philip Lloyd, Esq;
 John Clavering, Esq;
 Hon. Tho. Townsend, Esq;
 Sir Robert Cotton, Bart.
 Tho. Clutterbuck, Esq;
 Coll. John Cope.
 Sir Edw. Knatchbull, Bart.
 Anthony Cracherode, Esq;
 John Evelyn, Esq;
 John Harris, Esq;
 Edward Hughes, Esq;
 Thomas Hales, Esq;
 Coll. John Pytt.
 John Willes, Esq;
 Humphry Morrice, Esq;
 Charles Longueville, Esq;
 Sir Cecil Bishop, Bart.
 Hon. Matthew Ducie Morton, Esq;
 John Goddard, Esq;

John

Against.

George Lewen, Esq;
 Sir Thomas Lee, Bart.
 Harry Waller, Esq;
 Thomas Lutwyche, Esq;
 Edmund Waller, Esq;
 Sir John Cotton, Bart.
 Thomas Sclater Bacon, Esq;
 Sir Richard Grosvenor, Bart.
 Robert Booth, Esq;
 Edward Trelawny, Esq;
 Philip Hawkins, Esq;
 Capt. Edward Vernon.

Hon.

For.

John Hedges, Esq;
 Robert Corker, Esq;
 Henry Knollys, Esq;
 Sir Robert Rich, Bart.
 Henry Kelfall, Esq;
 Thomas Farrington, Esq;
 Hon. Tho. Herbert, Esq;
 Thomas Copleston, Esq;
 Hon. Coll. Cha. Howard.
 Hon. William Finch, Esq;
 Sir Charles Wills, Knt. of
 the Bath.
 Dr. Exton Sayer.
 Hon. Robert Byng, Esq;
 Richard Edgecumbe, Esq;
 James Shepard, Serjeant at
 Law.
 Walter Cary, Esq;
 Sir Archer Crofts, Bart.
 James Nelthrope, Esq;
 Dennis Bond, Esq;
 William Chapple, Serjeant at
 Law.
 Thomas Pearse, Esq;
 Sir James Thornhill, Knt.
 James Pelham, Esq;
 Nathaniel Gould, Esq;
 Thomas Towers, Esq;
 Charles Talbot, Esq;
 Stamp Brooksbank, Esq;
 Henry Parsons, Esq;
 Hon. Coll. Henry Berkley.
 Charles Selwyn, Esq;
 Coll. George Read.
 John Birch, Serjeant at Law.
 Sir Geo. Caswall, Knt.
 Uvedale Price, Esq;
 Caleb Lomax, Esq;
 George Harrison, Esq;
 Coll. Roger Handafide.
 Sir Thomas Hales, Bart.
 David Polhill, Esq;
 Thomas Hope, Esq;
 Capt. Richard Evans.

Sir

Against.

Hon. Henry Vane, Esq;
 Gilfred Lawson, Esq;
 James Lowther, Esq;
 Sir Wilfred Lawson, Bart.
 Sir Nathaniel Curfon, Bart.
 Thomas Pitt, Esq;
 John Fuller, Esq;
 Richard Reynell, Esq;
 Charles Howard, Jun. Esq;
 Edmund Pleydell, Esq;
 William Bowles, Esq;
 John Banks, Esq;
 George Bowes, Esq;
 Sir Robert Abdy, Bart.
 Thomas Bramston, Esq;
 Sir John Dutton, Bart.
 Peter Bathurst, Esq;
 Velters ---- Cornwall, Esq;
 Sir Thomas Clark, Knt.
 Sir Tho. Seabright, Bart.
 Edward Worteley, Esq;
 Sir Robert Furnese, Bart.
 Hon. John Finch, Esq;
 Sir Edward Stanley, Bart.
 Richard Shuttleworth, Esq;
 Daniel Pulteney, Esq;
 William Shippen, Esq;
 Thomas Bootle, Esq;

Hon.

For.

Sir George Saunders, Knt.
 Sir Henry Houghton, Bart.
 Christopher Towers, Esq;
 Sir Roger Bradshaw, Bart.
 Thomas Brereton, Esq;
 John Page, Esq;
 George Monson, Esq;
 William Clayton, Esq;
 Sir William Morgan, Knt.
 of the Bath.
 Waller Bacon, Esq;
 Robert Brittif, Esq;
 Hon. Coll. Will. Townshend.
 Sir Edmund Bacon of Gil-
 lingham, Bart.
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 Cha. Gounter Nichols, Esq;
 Coll. William Egerton.
 Sir Paul Methuen, Knt. of
 the Bath.
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 Ralph Jenifon, Esq;
 William Carr, Esq;
 Thomas Robinson, Esq;
 Lieutenant General Sabine.
 George Liddell, Esq;
 Thomas White, Esq;
 Thomas Noel, Esq;
 Arthur Herbert, Esq;
 Richard Herbert, Esq;
 Samuel Edwards, Esq;
 John Plumbtree, Esq;
 John Scrope, Esq;
 Lieutenant General Wade.
 William Peirce, Esq;
 Francis Fane, Esq;
 George Dodington, Esq;
 Francis Whitworth, Esq;
 Thomas Crispe, Esq;
 Robert Eyre, Esq;
 Sir John Norris, Knt.
 Sir Charles Wager, Knt.
 Paul Burrard, Esq;
 Coll. Maurice Morgan.

Norton

Against.

Hon. Sir Tho. Saunderson,
 Knight of the Bath.
 Robert Vynor, Esq;
 Sir Richard Ellis, Bart.
 Henry Pacey, Esq;
 Hon. Robert Shirley, Esq;
 Sir Michael Newton, Knt.
 of the Bath.
 Hon. James Bertie, Esq;
 Francis Child, Esq;
 Sir John Eyles, Bart.
 John Barnard, Esq;
 Micajah Perry, Esq;
 Humphrey Parsons, Esq;
 John Hanbury, Esq;
 Joseph Banks, Esq;
 Hon. Geo. Compton, Esq;
 Nicholas Fenwick, Esq;
 Sir Robert Sutton, Knt. of
 the Bath.
 Henry Perrot, Esq;
 Sir John Ashley, Bart.
 Richard Lister, Esq;
 John Weaver, Esq;
 Capt. John Charlton.
 John Sambroke, Esq;
 Sir Will. Wyndham, Bart.

D

Thomas

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For.

Norton Powlet, Esq;
 George Huxley, Esq;
 William Fortescue, Esq;
 Martin Bladen, Esq;
 Joseph Hinxman, Esq;
 John Conduit, Esq;
 John Selwyn, Esq;
 Hon. James Brudenell, Esq;
 Hon. Charles Collyer, Esq;
 Richard Plummer, Esq;
 Walter Chetwynd, Esq;
 Sir William Thompson, Kt.
 Francis Negus, Esq;
 Sir George Downing, Bart.
 Coll. William Wyndham.
 Carteret Leathes, Esq;
 Hon. Stephen Cornwallis,
 Esq;
 Hon. John Cornwallis, Esq;
 Coll. Thomas Norton.
 Right Hon. Arthur Onslow,
 Esq;
 Sir Orlando Bridgman, Bart.
 William Clayton, Esq;
 Coll. Richard Onslow.
 Henry Vincent, Esq;
 Paul Docminique, Esq;
 Right Hon. Henry Pelham,
 Esq;
 Hon. James Lomley, Esq;
 Hon. Henry Ingram, Esq;
 Charles Eversfield, Esq;
 Sir Richard Mills, Bart.
 Thomas Pelham, Esq;
 John Gould, Esq;
 James Hofte, Esq;
 Thomas Bladen, Esq;
 Sir John Shelly, Bart.
 Hon. John Lumley, Esq;
 Hon. Anthony Lowther,
 Esq;
 Daniel Wilson, Esq;
 John Ramsden, Esq;
 Anthony Duncombe, Esq;

Thomas

Against.

Thomas Horner, Esq;
 Sir Abraham Elton, Bart.
 Charles Lockyer, Esq;
 Michael Harvey, Esq;
 Joseph Taylor, Esq;
 John Chetwynd, Esq;
 James Worsley, Esq;
 Thomas Holmes, Esq;
 Hon. Will. Leveson Gower.
 Honourable Baptist, Leveson
 Gower.
 John Ward, Esq;
 Sir William Barker, Bart.
 Thomas Wyndham, Esq;
 Hon. Price Devereux, Esq;
 Samuel Lowe, Esq;
 Thomas Scawen, Esq;
 Sir Joseph Eyles, Knt.
 Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Jekyll,
 Knt.
 James Cocks, Esq;
 William Newland, Esq;
 James Oglethorpe, Esq;
 Joseph Danvers, Esq;
 John Knight, Esq;

Hon.

(19)

For.

Thomas Lewis, Esq;
 Hon. Robert Herbert, Esq;
 Hon. John Verney, Esq;
 George Heathcote, Esq;
 Townsend Andrews, Esq;
 Edward Ashe, Esq;
 Hon. Horatio Townsend,
 Esq;
 William Duckett, Esq;
 Rogers Holland, Esq;
 Giles Erle, Esq;
 William Erle, Esq;
 Sir Thomas Reade, Bart.
 Christopher Tilton, Esq;
 William Sloper, Esq;
 Sir William Willis, Bart.
 Matthew St. Quintin Esq;
 John Cross, Esq;
 Tho. Gibson, Esq;
 Sir Thomas Lyttleton, Bart.
 Sir Richard Lane, Knt.
 Thomas Winnington, Esq;
 Crew Offley, Esq;
 Edward Thompson, Esq;
 Richard Arundel, Esq;
 Sir William Strickland, Bart.
 Sir Conyers Darcy, Knt. of
 the Bath.
 James Tirrel, Esq;
 Hon. Henry Finch, Esq;
 George Westby Esq;
 William Jessop, Esq;
 Sir Charles Hotham, Bart.
 Leonard Smelt, Esq;
 Sir George Oxenden, Bart.
 Josiah Burchet, Esq;
 Hercules Baker, Esq;
 William Glanville, Esq;
 Robert Britow, Esq;
 Peter Walter, Esq;
 Sir Philip Yorke, Knt.
 Hugh Williams, Esq;
 Thomas Morgan, Esq;
 Sir Nicholas Williams, Knt.
 John

Against.

Hon. Edward Digby, Esq;
 William Peyto, Esq;
 John Neale, Esq;
 Sackville Tufton, Esq;
 John How, Esq;
 William Wardour, Esq;
 Gabriel Roberts, Esq;
 Charles Boone, Esq;
 Edward Lisle, Esq;
 Samuel Sandys, Esq;
 Richard Foley, Esq;
 Sir John Rushout, Bart.
 Sir George Saville, Bart.
 Sir William Milner, Bart.
 William Aisleby, Esq;

D 2

Charles

(20)

For.

John Griffith, Esq;
 Thomas Wynne, Esq;
 Salusbury Lloyd, Esq;
 William Corbett, Esq;
 Thomas Lewis, Esq;
 Coll. John Middleton.
 Coll. James Campbell.
 William Smart, Esq;
 Sir James Campbell.
 Patrick Dunbar, Esq;
 John Campbell, Esq;
 Daniel Campbell, Esq;
 John Campbell, Esq;
 Alexander Brodie, Esq;
 Patrick Campbell, Esq;
 Coll. Sinclair.
 John Cockburn, Esq;
 James Grant, Esq;
 Coll. James Scott.
 Col. John Hope.
 Patrick Heron, Esq;
 Lord Archibald Hamilton.
 Alexander Hamilton, Esq;
 Duncan Forbes, Esq;

Against.

Charles Stanhope, Esq;
 Hon. George Berkley, Esq;
 Henry Furnese, Esq;
 David Papillon, Esq;
 Sir Robert Aulston, Bart.
 Phillips Gibbons, Esq;
 John Norris, Esq;
 Hon. Buffy Mansell, Esq;
 John Campbell, Esq;
 Erasmus Philips, Esq;
 Sir Archibald Grant, Bart.

N. B. To preserve that Impartiality, which hath been pursued in this short Narration, it is necessary to remind the Reader (as is before taken Notice of) that many Gentlemen were gone into the Country before this Demand was made in the House, and some were absent upon Accident or particular Business; especially the Right Hon. *William Pulteney*, Esq; who after speaking against this Demand, was obliged by *Illness* to leave the House, before the *Question* was put.

Die

(21)

Die Sabbati 10^o Maii, 1729.

UPON Report from the Committee of the whole House, appointed to consider of the Bill in relation to Corn and Grain imported, &c.

It was moved, That the Words following, in the Clause for appropriating the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament, to be left out of the said Bill, *viz.*

“ AND it is also hereby further Enacted,
 “ That out of all, or any, the Aids or Supplies aforesaid, there shall, and may be, issued and applied, for, and upon, Account of
 “ the Arrears of the several Duties and Revenues granted to his Majesty, by an Act
 “ made and passed in the first Year of his
 “ Majesty's Reign (Entitled, *An Act for the better Support of his Majesty's Household, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of Great-Britain*) any Sum, or Sums of Money,
 “ not exceeding the Sum of 115,000*l.* in
 “ such Manner, and for such Uses and Purposes, as his Majesty shall from Time to Time
 “ be pleased to direct and appoint.

PROVIDED always, and be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That in Case there shall be standing out, or in Arrear, at the Demise of his Majesty, (whom God long preserve) any Sum or Sums of Money, for, or on Account of the said Duties and Revenues, which, together with what hath been, or shall be, received out of the same, during his Majesty's
 Life;

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Life; and, together with the said Sum of 115,000*l.* shall be more than sufficient to compleat and satisfy to his Majesty during his Life, the yearly Sum of 800,000*l. per Annum*, in clear Money, to be computed from the 25th Day of June, 1727. then and in such Case, the said Sum of 115,000*l.* shall be replaced and refunded by, or out of such Sum or Sums of Money so standing out, or in Arrears, as aforesaid, as shall be more than sufficient to compleat the said yearly Sum of 800,000*l.* in clear Money, to be computed as aforesaid, or so much thereof, as the Monies arising thereby shall extend to satisfy the same; and that the Monies so to be replaced or refunded, shall be separated and kept apart in his Majesty's Exchequer, for the Use and Benefit of the Publick, and shall not be issued or applied to any other Use, or Uses, than such as shall be directed by Authority of Parliament.

Which being objected to,

The Question was put, Whether those Words shall stand Part of the Bill?

It was resolved in the *Affirmative*.

Dissentient.

I. BECAUSE we apprehend, that this part of the Clause is neither founded on the Words of the Act to which it refers, nor warranted by any Construction thereof; for the Provision made in that Act is, that whenever the Produce of the several Duties and Revenues thereby granted, appears to be so *deficient*, that within any one Year it shall not be sufficient to answer and satisfy the Sum of 800,000*l.* then, and not in any other Case, such *Deficiency* is to be made good out of the next Aids
of

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of Parliament. As this Act therefore provides only for a real Deficiency of the *Produce*, and not for any Arrear in the *Receipt* within the Year, as it has appeared by the Accounts laid before this House, that the real Produce was considerably more than sufficient to answer the Sum of 800,000*l.* We think there can be no Colour to affirm that there has been any such Deficiency as the Act can be supposed to provide for. This appears from the Words of the Clause, which directs the Application of the Sum of 115,000*l.* for, and upon Account of Arrears; and we cannot conceive the Arrears provided for by this Clause, and the Deficiency described in the Act, to be one and the same Thing. Since, if they could be so understood, the Provision in the Clause would have been made agreeable to the Words of the Act, which relate to a Deficiency only; and it would be highly unjust to his Majesty, to direct the Sum of 115,000*l.* to be refunded to the Publick at any Time, or under any Conditions: For if there had been a real Deficiency, the Grant to his Majesty should be absolute, and the Sum of 115,000*l.* would legally belong to him; so that this Clause either takes from his Majesty what we have no Right to take, or it gives him, which, as we apprehend, he has no Right to claim: As we cannot then consider this Sum to be given, either for a real Deficiency founded on the Civil List Act, or that it can be warranted by the said Act as a supposed Arrear; We conceive it to be as a *new Grant* to his Majesty, and a new Burthen on the People, which does not appear to us to have been demanded by the Crown; and consequently

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frequently, not to have passed according to the Forms hitherto practised and requisite in all such Cases.

2. THIS Clause appears to us unreasonable on many Accounts. As there was no real Deficiency at *Midsummer*, 1728. to which Time the Account is stated, so neither is there any Arrear at the Time, when this new Supply is granted; but the whole Sum of 800,000*l.* and considerably more was come into his Majesty's Coffers, and he was consequently in Possession of the very Money, the supposed Arrear of which is made good to him by this Clause. Thus it seems to us, that the Nation is loaded, not to compleat, but to augment the Sum designed for his Majesty's Civil List, and this at a Time when the publick Debts are increased, when the Taxes are heavily felt in all Parts of the Country, when our foreign Trade is incumbered and diminished, when our Manufactures decay, when our Poor daily multiply, and when many other national Calamities surround us. These Considerations are in themselves very moving, and we apprehend that they must appear stronger, when it shall be further considered that his Majesty would be so far from wanting any of these extraordinary Supplies, that even without the Provision in the Civil List Act for making good Deficiencies, he would be possessed of a far greater Revenue than *K. William*, *Q. Anne*, or even his late Majesty enjoyed; and yet his present Majesty then Prince of *Wales*, received out of the Civil List Revenues, during the Reign of the late King, 100,000*l. per Annum*, besides the entire Revenues of the Principality of *Wales*, and
Dutchy

(25)

Dutchy of *Cornwall*, whereas it does not appear to us, that the like Sum of 100,000*l. per Annum*, or even the Revenues of the Principality of *Wales*, have yet been settled on his present Royal Highness.

3. WE cannot but be extremely apprehensive of the many ill Consequences which may follow from a Grant of Money to the Crown, so ill-grounded and so unreasonable as we conceive this to be. The Advantage in Favour of his Majesty, established by the Civil List Act, is very great; since if the Produce of the Revenues granted and appropriated to the Use of the Civil List does not answer the yearly Sum of 800,000*l.* the *Deficiency* is to be made good to his Majesty by the Publick, whereas no Provision is made, by which, if the Produce of those Revenues exceeds the Sum of 800,000*l.* the Surplus shall accrue to the Benefit of the Publick. By this Precedent, not only real *Deficiencies* are to be made good, but Supplies are to be given for Arrears standing out at the End of every Year, and not only for Arrears standing out, but even for Arrears which shall come in before the Supplies can be granted, tho' the Supply given to make good Arrears in one Year, will certainly increase the Surpluses in another; when we consider the Method which has obtained of anticipating the Revenues, before they come into the Exchequer, contrary to the antient and legal Practice; when we reflect in what Manner these Accounts have been made up, and in what Manner they have been brought in, we cannot but apprehend that a Door is opened by this Precedent for laying new and excessive Charges on the Nation; the Revenues appropriated
E
riated

priated to the Uses of his Majesty's Civil List are subject in their own Nature to vary, and even when there is no *Deficiency* in the Produce there may be Arrears in the Receipt. These Arrears may easily be increased by the Management of designing Ministers, by private Directions to Receivers, and by artful Methods of stating the Accounts; from all which, we cannot but apprehend, that now this Precedent is made, we may have frequent Accounts of Arrears, and a grievous, and even intolerable Load may be brought on the Nation in a short Time; and we are persuaded that his Majesty can have no Satisfaction in finding his Court abound in Wealth, whilst he may undergo the Mortification of seeing his People reduced to Poverty; neither can we conceive that the latter Part of the Clause is in any Degree an adequate Provision against the Evil we complain of, or the Apprehensions we entertain; for an Account to be made up at his Majesty's Demise, will not prevent the Consequences of this Precedent during his Life; and as we hope that his Reign will be long, so we may be allowed to fear, that even during the Continuance of it, this extraordinary Method of increasing his Majesty's private Revenue (already very ample) may prove a Source of general Discontent, which is but too apt to produce general Disaffection.

<i>Plymouth</i>	<i>Strafford</i>
<i>Willoughby de Brooke</i>	<i>Litchfield</i>
<i>Gower</i>	<i>Beaufort</i>
<i>Warrington</i>	<i>Scarsdale</i>
<i>Coventry</i>	<i>Montjoy</i>
<i>Boyle</i>	<i>Oxford and Mortimer</i>
<i>Northampton</i>	<i>Bathurst.</i>

Die Lune 12^o. Maii 1729.

Hodie *tertia vice lecta est Billa*, Entituled, An Act to Ascertain the Custom payable for Corn and Grain imported, for better ascertaining the Price and Quantity of Corn and Grain, for which a Bounty is payable upon Exportation, for appropriating the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament; and for giving further time to Clerks and Apprentices, to pay Duties omitted to be paid for their Indentures and Contracts.

The Question was put, whether this Bill shall pass? It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Dissentient.

1st. Because we conceive there will accrue less Detriment to the Publick, by rejecting this whole Bill, than agreeing to it with that part of the Appropriation Clause, which enacts the Sum of 115,000 *l.* to be given to his Majesty, for, and upon Account of Arrears in the Civil List; since it would have been easy, had this Bill been rejected, to have provided for the general Appropriation of the several Aids granted in this Session of Parliament, in some other Manner.

2^{dly}. Because the Revenue for defraying the Expences of His Majesty's Civil Government, being considerably more ample than that of his Predecessors; we flatter'd ourselves that the Publick would not have been called upon

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again in so short a time, to make an Addition to that liberal Provision for the Crown, tho' there had been some small *deficiency* in some of the Duties appropriated to the Service of it: But this, in our Opinions, is so far from being the Case, that we are firmly persuaded, if we had agreed to this Bill, with that part of the Clause, We should have consented to a Grant of a new Aid, and not to make good the *Deficiency* on an old one; since it seems evident to us, that the Produce of the Civil List Fund in the first Year of His Majesty's Reign rather exceeded than fell short of 800,000 *l.* even from those Accounts deliver'd into the House which we believe will be universally allow'd to be free from any Suspicion of Error, in Favour of the People.

3dly, BECAUSE we look upon this to be not only a Grant of a new Aid, but a Grant made in such an irregular manner, without being demanded by the Crown, that it cannot but give Us Reason to think, that however it may be wanted by the Ministers, it may possibly not be desired by his Majesty.

4thly. BECAUSE the literal Interpretation of part of the Act for settling the Civil List Revenues on his Majesty, which was contended for, in order to justify that part of this Claim, to which we object, seems to us liable to Consequences very dangerous to the Properties of all the Subjects, by putting it into the Power of those who have the Management of the Publick Money, to give the Crown a Title to the Arrears of the Civil List Funds; though perhaps left on purpose in the Hands of the Receivers, and to a Parliamentary Supply for those very Arrears too.

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5thly, BECAUSE the Argument, which was used for passing the Clause, from the smallness of the Sum, seems to Us a much stronger Reason why it should not be asked, than why it should be granted.

6thly. BECAUSE we observe that whenever a Supply for the Civil List hath been ask'd in Parliament, it has caus'd great Uneasiness in the Nation, tho' demanded from the Crown itself; and upon Pretences in our Opinion more justifiable, and at times less unseasonable than this; when, notwithstanding our most prevailing Methods of Negotiation, the Fate of Europe, as far as we are enabled to judge, is still in Suspence, and we labour under Difficulties that unavoidably attend such a doubtful, and undetermined Situation of Our Affairs Abroad, when the Complaints of the People at Home are general and loud, and as we fear, too well founded on Account of their Poverty and other Calamities, with which they have been long afflicted, and when for that Reason it appears, to Us to be not only a proper Clemency, but true Policy too, to avoid giving them the least Ground to apprehend, that the Parliament by laying unnecessary Burthens upon them, may itself become one of their Grievances.

7thly. BECAUSE this Attempt, when we consider it in all its Circumstances, as far as appears to us, is without Example, and we dread lest it should be made one, and laid hold of as a Precedent hereafter, if ever the Nation should have the Misfortune to see a lavish, weak and rapacious Ministry, armed with great Power, desirous to raise such extraordinary Supplies in Parliament, in such extraordinary ways, more

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in reality to support their own inconsiderate and pernicious Schemes, than the Honour and Dignity of the Crown.

Scarsdale.
Boyle.
Gower.
Northampton.
Oxford and Mortimer,
Willoughby de Brooke.
Litchfield.

Strafford.
Warrington.
Bathurst.
Beaufort.
Plymouth.
Montjoy.
Coventry.

F I N I S.
