92-9

Α

LETTER

FROM A

MEMBER of PARLIAMENT

TO HIS

FRIEND in the Country,

UPONTHE

MOTION to address his Majesty to settle

ONHIS

ROYAL HIGHNESS the

PRINCE of WALES, &c.

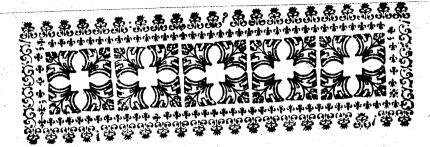
IN WHICH

The antient and modern State of the Civil Lift, and the Allowance to the Heir apparent, or prefumptive, of the Crown, are particularly consider'd.

LONDON:

Printed by H. HAINES, at the upper End of Bow-Street, Covent-Garden. (Price 1 s.)

1736



FROM A

Member of Parliament

TO HIS

Friend in the Country, &c.

SIR,



OUR Desire alone would have

our Desire alone would have prevail'd upon Me to give You my Thoughts upon any Subject You should require; but the Importance of This to the Nation, together with the Unconsidering how essential a Point it is to our Constitution, most necessarily call upon every Man not only to know but judge whether what A 2 hath

(4)

hath been done upon it was right, (fince it will probably be the Subject of Debate again next Session) as well as incumbent upon every Member, who is ask'd, to give the Reasons for his Vote, with an Account of what pass'd upon that Occasion.

I shall therefore more willingly and chearfully comply with your Request to know the Motives, which induced Me to give my Vote for an Address to his Majesty, to settle 100,000 l. per Annum upon his Royal Highness the Prince

of WALES.

You observe very justly, that all the Arguments, as well as the laborious Search into History, to prove that Princes of Wales have been, and ought always to be, dependent on their Fathers, on Account of the many ill Consequences, which it is pretended have flow'd from a contrary Situation, were intirely given up by the * Message, which was sent to his Royal Highness the Day before, and that Day communicated to the House. As This was allowing that He ought to have an independent Provision, it shorten'd the Debate, by making the Quantum the chief Consideration.

The Manner of introducing this Message was very extraordinary; and though it might be according to antient Precedents, yet it had not been done in the Memory of any of Us; and the Use made of it was as extraordinary;

(5)

for after the honourable Gentleman, who so well and fully open'd the Affair to the House, concluded with a Motion for as as loyal and dutiful an Address as was ever moved in Parliament, another right honourable Gentleman introduced the Message from bis Majesty as Part of his Speech. This was objected to, as not regular; but it was urged that it had been formerly practifed, and that He might read it to refresh his Memory, though Part of his Speech, as indeed He made it, and play'd the Orator to the utmost of his Power. Action, Tone of Voice, and a peculiar Emphasis were exerted to the highest Degree; and You may eafily perceive from the remarkable Method of wording his Royal Highness's Answer, upon their best Recollection and Remembrance, how capable it is of fuch Uses. By these Means, the impartial Reading of it by the Speaker, or the Calling to have it read, if any Doubts arose upon it, was prudently prevented; fince it was so much calculated for that Day, and put to fuch an Use, that every Body was afterwards under the greatest Surprize to find the Sense and Import of it so different from what They were before made to apprehend it to be. Nor, considering the great Concern and Surprize, which his Royal Highness must necessarily have been under, upon so solemn and unexpected a Message being deliver'd to Him, in which it is said, "that the 50,000 l. a Year, which is

^{*} See the Appendix.

" now paid Him, might by his Majesty's far-" ther Grace and Favour be render'd less pre-" carious, his Majesty, to prevent the bad Con-" fequences, which he apprehends may follow " from the undutiful Measures, which his Ma-" jesty is inform'd your Royal Highness hath " been advised to pursue, will grant to your " Royal Highness, for his Majesty's Life, the " said 50,000 l. per Annum, &c." I say, confidering the surprizing Manner, in which this Message was deliver'd to Him, one could not expect that the most accurate Words should be made Use of in an immediate Answer, not deliver'd in Writing. But if it is consider'd how pertinent and full an Answer the first Paragraph contains to the whole Message, and how the Language runs together throughout, it must be thought a very unfortunate Incident that the best Recollection and Remembrance of the noble Lords did not connect the Sense of those remarkable Words in the latter one, upon which so much Stress was laid, either to what went before, or after them; for it is only thus worded - * " After which, his Royal High-" ness used many dutiful Expressions towards " his Majesty, and then added; indeed, my " Lords, it is in other Hands; I am forry " for it; or Words to that Effect." - You fee, by the Votes, that these remarkable Words are particularly pointed out to the Notice of the Reader,

(7)

Reader, by inverted Comma's; but what Occasion was there for this additional Answer, or Report of it; fince it bears no Connection with any Thing new before, or after it, and even the Words are acknowledged to be so doubtful and indefinite, that it is added, or to that Effect? But confidering the Use, which was made of them afterwards, it might have been more proper, that as the Message was deliver'd to the noble Lords in WRITING, They had by some Intimation or other obtain'd their Answer in WRITING, to prevent Mistakes; or at least, after They had written their Sense of it down, with that remarkable Qualification, They had in some Way or other communicated it to his Royal Highness, in order to know whether it was the Sense and Purport of what He meant to fay; a Thing, which is generally, though privately, practised upon Addresses of Parliament to any of the Royal Family; lest the Person, who is to report their Answer, should unhappily mistake their Words, or Intentions.

But to consider this Point, without the artificial Glosses of a Day; a more respectful and dutiful Answer could not have been made; and every Man, who wishes well to the Royal Family, and knows that till the 100,000 l a Year is given to his Royal Highness, the Affair will be in other Hands must be sorry for it, as well as Himself; for it is the Right of every Member to insist on its being paid to Him;

^{*} See the Appendix.

or whatever Part is not so paid, ought to be taken back again, for the Benefit of the Publick, since for that Reason only We granted

fo large a Civil-Lift.

When We likewise consider what pass'd in the Debate upon the GIN-ACT last Year, which added 70,000 l per Annum to the Civil-List, with Relation to his Royal Hsghness's Allowance of 100,000 l a Year, and on the Day of Congratulation for his happy Nuptials, when that Point was again taken Notice of in the House, as well as a Jointure for her Royal Highness; nobody could help expecting that his Majesty would have been advised to do it, before any Application could be made in another Manner, as every Body forefaw it would be, if not done before the then next Seffion of Parliament. The Parliament sate long enough last Year, after the Marriage, to pass a Bill for that Purpose; and They are generally so complaisant to fuch Bills, as even to detain them but four Days in the House of Commons, as in the Case of the Princess of Orange; though it is true that, with the Help of Whit fun holy Days intervening, and the not giving any unnecessary Dispatch, as in the other Case, the Act for the present Allowance of her Royal Highness. hath been ten Days in passing the House of Commons; and if it should have taken up fo much Time last Year, as perhaps it may be defired to be thought it would, there was still more

(9)

more than sufficient to have pass'd it in. It seems scarce possible, considering how long the Marriage was in Agitation before it was compleated, but that the Thoughts of an Allowance for Him, as well as a fointure for Her, must have occurr'd; for even in private Life, when Parents themselves marry their Children, it is too often the first and only Consideration; and, upon such an Occasion as this, it could not possibly be forgot what both their Majesties had, when Prince and Princess of Wales.

That this was the first Step naturally to be taken, appears from his Majesty's most gracious Message, in which He says that his sudden Departure for Hanover hinder'd it at the latter End of the former Session of Parliament, and his Indisposition the Beginning of the

last.

As all Messages from the Crown to the Parliament are supposed and taken to be by Advice of the Ministers, so This no Doubt was the Work of some able Hand, by whom his Majesty was informed of those undutiful Measures said to be pursued by his Royal Highness, in the Mediation of Parliament. This is too tender a Point to be discussed here; nor shall I enter into it any farther than only by observing, that the best and most respectful Method the Prince could use, in this Case, even supposing any Application from

(10)

from Him, was That, which is and ought to be of the greatest Weight to his Majesty himfelf; the Parliament, who granted this Revenue to Him, for that Purpose, and who are the most proper Judges of their own Intentions. It would have been much below the Honour and Dignity of the Heir of the Crown to pay, like the meanest Pensioner, a servile Court to the most powerful Minister, in order to obtain That, wherein the Honour of the Crown and the Royal Family are so much concern'd.

You will easily perceive that the whole Bufiness of the Day was purposely to be laid upon the Message and Answer. Terrors were to be added to the Surprize and high Colouring of it. All This was pompoully introduced, by declaring, "that this Motion was to de-" termine and dispose of the legal Property " of the Crown; for it was a Question of Property, and That the Dispute; as He was a-" fraid it would be confider'd in an higher " Place." - But furely this Nation as yet knows of no higher Place than in Parliament. It was farther urged, "that it was taking " from the King, and would be a Violation " of Property." That We have the Power " of Appropriation, whilft We are granting " Money, but not afterwards. — That it was " a Rule of the House, not to enter into any " publick Confideration of Money, without " Consent

(II)

" Consent of the Crown."——How foon must what pass'd last Year have been forgotten? We then pass'd a Smuggling Law, without having the previous Approbation of the Crown, though it was very oddly introduced in the Gin-Act; perhaps, by Way of Precedent; and in the Debate upon that Bill, it was very strongly afferted that the Revenues of the Crown were the Revenues of the People. If so, have They not a Right to meddle with what is their own? But what is most surprizing, the very next Thing urged in the same Speech was a full Confutation of it, and shew'd the contrary; for it was then faid, "that the Mo-"tion in the Convention of Parliament, for_ " the Princess Anne of Denmark's Allowance, " was disagreed to; but, in the next Session, it " pass'd Nemine contradicente which is an Evi-" dence of the King's Confent, and the Neces-" fity of having it.—That in the Committee, it " was agreed to be 70,000 l. a Year; but " that Resolution was re-committed, and They " then by Address to the Crown added to her " former Letters Patent, for 30,000 l. a Year, " the Sum of 20,000 l. a Year, to compleat " the whole to 50,000 l."—Even This shews the Parliament's Right of interfering, without the Consent of the Crown; and that This was so, appears from the very State of the Fact itself; for if the Crown had consented that it should be 70,000 l. a Year, and the

(12)

House had agreed to it, how could They afterwards reduce it to 50,000 l? which plainly shews, as well as the secret History of those Times, how disagreeable it was to the Crown, and how the Affair was compounded, after it was brought in, without the King's Consent. Great Stress was laid upon This, in Answer to the Precedent quoted of the Parliament's doing it Themselves; as if They allow'd that the whole Affair depended upon that Point; which makes it necessary to state the Fact fully from the Journals.

" A Motion being made the 26th of March 1689, that the House will consider of a " Provision to be made for a Revenue, for the " Princess Anne of Denmark; Resolved, " that when the Matter of the Revenue shall " come under Consideration of the House, "They will then confider of fettling a Re-" venue upon the Princes's Anne of Denmark." On the 25th of April following, the House resolved, "that out of the publick "Revenue for the Charge of the civil Go-" vernment, (including therein what is to be " allow'd for her royal Majesty, the Queen " Regnant, the Queen Dowager, the Prince " and Princess of Denmark, and the Mareschal Schomberg) there be allow'd the Sum of The 9th of August, it was reported from the Committee, "that it is the Opinion of this Committee, that there be an " additional

(13)

additional Provision for a Revenue for the " Princess Anne of Denmark, for her Life " only, of 40,000 l. per Ann. and that the " Question being proposed, that the House do agree with the Committee, a Debate a-" rose thereupon. — Resolved that the De-" bate be adjourn'd, until the settling of the " Revenue comes under Consideration of the " House." - But that Affair never came under Confideration that Seffion; for the Parliament was adjourn'd the 20th of August to the 20th of September; then to the 21st of October; and then prorogued to the 23d of October, which was making of a new Session at that Time. On the 5th of December, the House resolved, nemine contradicente, "that " it be an Instruction to the Committee, that "They do take Care there be a Provision " made in the Bill, for the Maintenance of " the Prince and Princess of Denmark, for "this Year." - Upon This only They did, in Pursuance of their Resolution of the 9th of August, bring into the Bill a Clause, not only for the 30,000 l. a Year, granted by King James's Letters Patent, but likewise for the additional 40,000 l. a Year. This was recommitted, and the next Day, the 18th of December, the Clause was amended, and the additional 40,000 l. was left out; when the House address'd his Majesty to make a Provision for the Prince and Princess of Denmark

(14)

of 50,000 l. a Year. This plainly shews that it was the Parliament's own Doing from the Beginning to the End; and that all the Dispute about the Affair must have been about the Quantum, which was therefore only the Dispute the Dispute that the Parliament of the Pa

pute of a Day.

Another Thing endeavour'd to be shewn was, what the Support of the Royal Family costs his Majesty, to imply that no more could be afforded to his Royal Highness; for He had 50,000 l. the Duke of Cumberland 8,000 l. the Princess of Orange 5,000 l. the two eldest Princesses 5,300 l. the two youngest Princesses 2,000 l. which makes the whole amount to 70,300 l. a Year. To this was to be added a proper Allowance for Bed and Board, and extraordinary Works in the Palace; which together might be eafily conceived to amount to 100,000 l. per Ann. The Conclusion therefore of Course must be, that 50,000 l. a Year was the whole Sum, which was defign'd by Parliament for the Prince of Wales; and the Remainder of what his present Majesty had, more than the late King, was to supply the 50,000 l. a Year to the Queen, and other private Uses of an upright Administration. But We were told that, upon these Heads of extraordinary Expences to his Majesty, there would be a Saving to Him of 15,000 l. a Year, fince the Prince now keeps his own Table. How much more therefore must it cost the Prince,

(15)

Prince, by the additional Tables of the Princes's Family, &c? Suppose it only to be 4000 l. a Year. This shews plainly that his present Allowance is too little; since above one Third of it must go in Eating and Drinking.

These Arguments, and the Affair of the Message, ended with the most pathetick and terrible Reasons for not coming to a Question,

upon the Motion;

—— immedicabile Vulnus Ense rescindendum.

No Father would forgive a Son, for appealing to an higher Power. — We ought to avoid giving our Judgment in this Affair. — The King hath a Property in it, and We should stop this breaching Gap, which may prove an Inundation to drown all. — No Family will stand Enquiries into private Mistakes — a Victory to either — Lord have Mercy upon us! — A Victory to either may be the Destruction of both.

Having given You a short State of the Proceedings, and the Arguments against the Motion, I shall now offer my Reasons for it, and prove from History that the Heirs apparent of the Crown, and lately even the presumptive Heirs, have always had a sufficient Allowance, independent of the Crown, not

(16)

from the Precariousness of it only, but the

Quantum.

It appears from our History and Records, without any Thing being proved to the contrary in the Debate, that from the 15th of Edward the 3d till the Crown, by its Liberalities, had render'd itself dependent for its Support on the Bounties of the People, there was a greater Proportion of an independent Allowance annex'd to those Titles, to which the Heirs apparent of the Crown were born, than what We now claim'd as their Right.

The Revenues of Wales, Cornwal, and Chefter, in the Time of Edward the 3d, produced 9,302 1. a Year; and, confidering the Proportion of Money in those Times, they were very great; for We find, when Henry the 5th began the Conquest of France, that the Revenues of the Crown were but 50,000 l. a Year; and even so low as the Reign of Henry the 7th, they were sufficient to enable a Prince of Wales, by fettling only a third Part in Dower, to make an ample Provision for the greatest Princess and Fortune of those Times.

There are Precedents of Parliament, for interfering in the Creation of a Prince of Wales, whilst very young; and They have even required it, when the Revenues alone, annex'd to those high Honours, were a sufficient independent Support for their Rank and Dignity; nay, in a greater Proportion than what was

(17)

now defired. They have likewise interfered in the Dowers, that were formerly given to Queen Consorts. They have even gone farther; for They have required that not only Honours, but Revenues, should be settled on the younger Sons of the Crown; and all This They have done, when the Revenues were the proper Inheritance of the Crown, and the People paid

nothing annually to its Support.

If Parliaments interfered in those Times, it is not furely less their Right at present, when the People pay the whole Expences of the Crown, as well as the Government, and granted so large a Civil-List upon this express Condition, to make an bonourable Provision for ALL THE ROYAL FAMILY. Have They not therefore a greater Right, whenever They think fit to exert it, to see the Heir of the Crown supported with equal Honour to his Predecessors, since the Civil-List is now so vastly beyond what the warmest Imagination could have ever suspected?

The Power and Dependents of the Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwal, and Earl of Chefter, were formerly so great and numerous, that They were of vast Service to the Crown, in all domestick Troubles. But these Revenues, as well as Powers, have undergone the same Alterations with the Revenues of the Crown, by the Liberality of former Princes, as well as by abolishing of antient Tenures; and though

the Power of a Prince of Wales is now a meer Trifle, which confifts only in making a few Welsh Parsons, (whereas They had formerly the Nomination to Bishopricks) and some little Employments; nay, though the present Revenue is not reckon'd above 1,100 l. a Year, which in Edward the 3d's Time was 4,681 l.; yet even This, small as it is, hath not yet been granted to his present Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales.

Notwithstanding the Alterations, which happen'd in the Revenues of the Crown, from the Time of a Prince of Wales, in Henry the 7th's Reign, to one under King James the first, when the People paid so great a Share towards the publick Expences, the Prince's Allowance was much larger, in Proportion, than what is now contended for. The Revenue of that King, upon a Medium of several Years, produced 450,863 1. per Annum, which included the current Service and Civil-Lift, as We now call them; (for it was to answer every Expence;) yet out of This, the Prince of Wales had 46,000 l. a Year; and only 24,500 l. was granted to the Queen-Confort, though She was at a very great Expence, in keeping a Sort of a separate Court.

The Alterations that have happen'd by the Struggles between the Crown and the People for the Purse, which some think They still keep, made none in their antient Care and Zeal

(19)

Zeal for the Heir apparent of the Crown; but They even carry'd it farther, by extending it to the prefumptive Heir, though They were to pay it themselves; for no sooner was the Restoration agreed upon here than King Charles the 2d and his Brothers had a Share in the first Money-fruits, whilst They were yet abroad. That Parliament, after receiving his Majesty's Declaration, and highly approving it, " * im-" mediately took into Confideration that the " King, being long deprived of his Revenue, " might be in Want of Money, and therefore " order'd that 50,000 l should be speedily " raised and presented to his Majesty, with " 10,000 l. to the Duke of York, and 5,000 l. to " the Duke of Gloucester" - The same Regard was continued to the Duke of York, though it was highly probable then that his Majesty would have had Children to succeed Him; yet the Parliament in the Year 1663, settled the Revenues of the Post-Office and Wine-Licences upon Him; and his Revenues at last amounted to 104,000 l a Year.

After the Revolution, in the first Year of King William and Queen Mary, the Parliament themselves, without any Message, or Address, enacted the Letters Patent of King James the 2d for 30,000 l a Year. to the Princess Anne of Denmark and though it was urged, in our late Debate, that the Instruction for it was dropt, because it was disrespectful to the Crown, and

^{*} See Eachard's History.

(20)

meddling with the Affairs of the Royal Family, which the Parliment had nothing to do with; yet the Bill, with that very Clause in it, pass'd into a Law. We have already shewn how, by Address of Parliament, it was increased to 50,000 l. a Year. This was a certain and honourable Provision; especially considering that the Civil-List Revenues of King William produced but about 500,000 l. a Year, out of which feveral Articles were paid, that are now thrown upon the People. There was likewise a Jointure settled, in 1662, upon Queen Catherine of 30,000 l. a Year. At the End of the War, King William's Civil-List was increased to 700,000 l. a Year for Life, and it was then to pay the several Articles above, as likewise the farther Sum of 50,000 l. a Year to King James the second's Queen. But upon not paying several of these Articles, the Parliament took back from the Civil-List, the Occasion for which it was granted then ceasing, the Sum of 100,000 1. a Year; and out of the Remainder He paid the Pensions, amounting at least to 48,832 l. a Year, which reduced his Revenue to 551, 168 1. and out of That He paid the 50,000 1. a Year to the Princess of Denmark. I shall be more particular upon this Alteration in another Place; but it was necessary to mention thus much of it here, to carry on the History and View of the different Civil-Lists of late.

The

(21)

The Revolution made great Changes, with Relation to our Money-Affairs; for before that Time, the Grants to the Crown were made general, without specifying any Uses, whereby it often happen'd that the Money was apply'd to quite different Purposes than for what it was intended; and Those, for which alone it was thought to be given, were totally neglected. To remedy this Evil, for the future, the Method of appropriating was introduced; which so naturally led to the Right of enquiring whether the Sense of their Appropriations had been strictly observed, and consequently gave Them a Liberty of making any Alterations consistent with their original Intention.

Upon Queen Anne's Accession to the Throne, the same Revenues were granted Her, for Life, as his late Majesty King William had; but the * 3,700 la Week, amounting to 192,000 L a Year, after the Expiration of five Years, over and above what would pay the Interest of the Banker's Debt, was reserved to be disposed of for the Use and Benefit of the Publick. Her Revenues, upon a Medium of ten Years, amounted to 590,9941; and the last three Years but to 549,2151; which was owing to her giving away the First-Fruits and Tenths, and 36,400 l. a Year to publick Services out of the Post-Office; from which must be deducted, in order to see her Civil-List in the same Light We view That of his present Majesty, the

* 1 Anne Cap. 7. S, 3. and 4.

(22)

Sum of 48,832 l, which appears by an Estimate of Civil-List Expences, made the 23d of July 1702, of Pensions and Perpetuities payable at the Exchequer, the Excise, Post and Alienation Offices, which were then all for Perpetuities, Lives, or Terms of Years, and greatly reduced her Civil-List according to the modern Way of accounting. Out of this was paid to his Royal Highness, the Prince of Denmark, 30,000 l. a Year. It is unnecessary to make any Observations on the Difference between her pre-

fent Majesty's Allowance and this.

Upon his late Majesty's happy Accession to the Throne, the Parliament immediately granted Him the same Revenues her late Majesty had. In his first Speech to his Parliament, He took Notice "that the Branches of "the Revenue, formerly granted for the Sup-" port of the civil Government, are so far "incumber'd and alienated, that the Produce 56 of the Funds, which remain and have been " granted to Me, will fall much short of what "was at first design'd for maintaining the Ho-" nour and Dignity of the Crown; and fince " it is my Happiness (as I am confident You "think it yours) to see a Prince of Wales, " who may in due Time succeed Me on the "Throne, and to fee Him blefs'd with many " Children, the best and most valuable Pledges " of our Care and Concern for your Prospe-"rity; This must occasion an Expence,

(23)

" to which the Nation hath not of many "Years been accustom'd, but such as surely " no Man will grudge."—It is observable, first, that the Desire of his Majesty, as to Himself, was only that the Produce of the Revenue might be compleated to what it was originally defign'd; and the rest was intirely for his Royal Highness; which shews with what Grandeur and Proportion of the Revenue it was then thought necessary to support a Prince of Wales. For this Reason, a very large Addition to the Civil-List was so chearfully granted, to compleat the net Produce of it only to 700,000 l. a Year; and that it was granted so very large was because 100,000 l. a Year was to be given the Prince of Wales; for 600,000 l. a Year was what was originally defign'd for the Crown; which will farther appear from that mature and nice Inspection, which the whole Affair underwent in the House of Commons, and what pass'd upon it. They began with calling for a vast Number of Papers, relating to every Article of the Civil-List Revenues and Payments, which They referr'd to the Committee, that came to the Resolution of giving 700,000 l. "The fea Year to his late Majesty. " veral Establishments, Accounts, Abstracts, "States, Estimates, Lists, and other Papers, " relating to the matter of the Civil-List; " and also the Abstract of the Produce of the "Revenue of his Royal Highness, James (24)

" Duke of York, for the Year 1678; and the "Book intitled Anno nono Regis Jacobi, a " Book of Diet, Wages &c. of the Prince's "House; which have been presented to the " House, and order'd to lye upon the Table " to be perused by the Members."-This long Vote is inferted to shew how minutely every Part was confider'd at that Time, and the View They must have in granting 700,000 l. a Year; fince his Majesty's Revenue wanted only to be compleated to 600,000 la Year; and for what Purpose They had the Precedent before Them of the Duke of York's having 104,000 l. a Year. Wherefore They concluded their Grant with the same remarkable Words as were used in That of King William; that it should be, for the Service of his Majesty's Houshold and Family, and for his necessary Expences and Occasions; fince They depended upon their Intention being comply'd with, and left the Honour of doing it to the Crown. Nor did his late Majesty at all delay answering their just Confidence in Him; for it pass'd into a Law but the 20th of August, and in ten Days afterwards his Majesty, in Pursuance of the Grant, notify'd to both Houses that He had order'd Letters patent for 100,000 l.a Year to his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, and for fettling 50,000 l. a Year on her Royal Highness, in Case She should survive Him, defiring to be enabled by Parliament to make this Pro(25)

Provision secure to her Royal Highness. This Intention of the Parliament and his Majesty was accordingly pass'd into an Act; and therefore furely We should have been highly. wanting to Ourselves, in the Duty We owe. to his Majesty and our Country, if We had not now endeavour'd humbly to advise his Majesty in this Affair, fince it is almost ten Years. fince the Parliament first design'd 100,000 1. a Year for his present Royal Highness.

But in order to see what the Parliament did then design his late Majesty's Revenue to be, and to compare it with his present Majesty's, it must be observed that the 36,200 la Year in Penfions, which the People now pay, and not. his present Majesty, was deducted from the Grant of 600,000 l. a Year, which reduced his Revenue to 563,800 l; whilst, at the same Time, the Revenue of the Prince of Wales.

was above 110,000 l. a Year.

The present great and unparallel'd Civil-List was founded upon his Majesty's first Speech from the Throne; in which He said, being persuaded that the Experience of past "Times, and a due Regard to the Honour " and Dignity of the Crown, will prevail up-" on You to give this first Proof of Your Zeal " and Affection."—It was at that Time unneceffary to canvas over again, fo minutely as in the last Reign, the several Papers, that make Part of the Journals, and were the Ground

of their former Proceeding; a Fact so recent is the Minds of many, that it was impossible for any One to think, when They gave 100,000 l. a Year more, (even supposing to answer former Extravagances) but that They must likewise design 100,000 l. out of it for the Prince of Wales; fince if That was not understood, some other Reasons must have been alledg'd why it should be 800,000 l. a Year, besides past Experience only; for his late Majesty had granted Him at first for his Share, exclusive of the Pensions, but 563,800 l. He had besides during his Reign 300,000 l. from the two Insurance Companies, and 1,000,000 l. from the Civil-Lift Lottery, which amounts to 100,000 l. a Year more, during his whole Reign; though the greatest Part was lavish'd away in four Years, and therefore cannot be call'd an annual Charge of Government; and is That the past Experience, for which We ought to have so great a Regard, as to give his present Majesty 100,000 l. a Year more; fince even That would have been fully made up, had We given his Majesty but 700,000 l. a Year? If therefore past Experience only was the Cause of the Grant of 800,000 l. a Year, past Experience was a Proof of the defign'd Application of it, for the future; nor could there be, at that Time, any Person in Parliament so ignorant, as not to know that his present Majesty had 100,000 l. a Year, whilst Prince of Wales, though many might

(27)

not be apprized that, in order to swell up the Sum so as to bear a Medium upon the whole of his late Majesty's Reign of 800,000 l. including 100,000 la Year to the Prince of Wales, there had been so lavish and profuse, if not corrupt Administration, that there was issued in four Years, being from Lady-Day 1721 to Lady-Day 1725, for the Privy-Purse, secret Service, Pensions, Bounties, and Money without Account, the Sum of 2,728,759 l. An Account of this most extravagant Profusion was laid before Parliament, at the very latter End of a Seffion; and when it call'd so very loudly to be taken into Consideration the next, it was over-ruled by the most dextrous Piece of Parliamentary Craft, that ever was put in Practice; I mean, by declaring it to be order'd that no Paper deliver'd in a former Session could be proceeded upon in the next; which hath stopt all Enquiries into this iniquitous Transaction. But what is this Nation to expect, if that very Proceeding, and a Design of making the like practicable for the future, was the only Reason for granting his present Majesty not only 100,000 l. a Year more, which would have supply'd it, but even 200,000 l. a Year more, if the Parliament did not design his present Royal Highness 100,000 l. a Year? What Englishman is there, who will not be under the greatest Apprehensions, if past Experience is not allow'd to extend to an ample and D 2

honourable Provision for his Royal Highness? For otherwise it can be apply'd only to strengthen the Hands of a Minister, in the Distribution of his Favours, and the Support of his Power. But when We confider how his Majesty hath always enjoy'd the Hearts and Affections of his People; especially since his prudent Oeconomy hath been so illustriously display'd, as an Example to all his Subjects; We cannot help being convinced that the Defign of his Majesty's first Speech, as well as of the Donors, must have been directly the Reverse; fince enough might and furely would be faved from the wasteful Liberalities, so lately practised, to answer all such new Establishments for the Royal Family as were not a Charge upon his late Majesty. The Intention therefore of the Donors, when founded on past Experience only, could not have been to give 800,000 La Year, unless They design'd the 100,000 1. a Year should be continued to the Prince of Wales. It is remarkable that no Accounts, no Estimates were call'd for, but past Experience was to supply the whole; and yet the greatest Article and what was uppermost in every one's Thoughts, except his Majesty's Provision, was the only one, that past Experience did not take in. But there are many, who have not forgot that memorable Day; that there were two Persons who spoke, one for the Question, and another against it; as (29)

well as the remarkable Silence and tacit Confent of many; and that even the honourable Gentleman, who made the Motion, was very far from mentioning the Words past Experience; much less from hinting at them in that glorious Sense, to which He would now have them confin'd. Had the least Thing of that Nature happen'd, it would not have been fo calm and filent a Day. But, on the contrary his Royal Highness's Name was mention'd, and it was generally understood that He was to have the same Allowance. The additional Charge of a Queen-Consort, and the honourable Provision for all the Royal Family were not forgot. If therefore it was and is to be confider'd in that Light, past Experience reduces it to the additional Charges on those Heads more than his late Majesty was at. He kept some of the young Princesses, and the Prince of Wales at Hanover; but whatever more may be now allow'd for the Charge of the Royal Family than was, at that Time, even with the very great and extraordinary Allowance of 50,000 l. a Year to the Queen, it will not amount to the additional 100,000 l. which was given for these Reasons to his present Majesty; and This is another Proof that the said annual Sum was design'd for the Prince of Wales.

As the Memory of this Transaction was much fresher in the Minds of Gentlemen, about a Year and an half after it happen'd

than it can be supposed at present; and as many strong Arguments were sounded upon it, against giving his Majesty the samous 115,000 l. which was ask'd for a Desiciency; it may not be amiss to quote a Passage or two from a little Tract, publish'd upon that Occasion, and intitled A Letter from a Member of Parliament &c.—In Page 13, the Author makes the following Observation.

following Observation. " 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." The Lords, in their Protest upon the same Occasion, say, as may be found in that Piece, p. 24. " when it shall be far-"ther confider'd 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 De-" ficiencies, He would be possess'd of a far greater Revenue than King William, Queen Anne, or even his late Majesty enjoy'd; and " yet his present Majesty, then Prince of Wales, received out of the Civil-List Reve-

(3I)

"nues, during the Reign of the late King;
"100,000 l. per Annum, besides the intire
"Revenues of the Principality of Wales
and Dutchy of Cornwal; whereas it does
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 set-

" tled on his present Royal Highness.

All this is upon a Supposition that the Civil-List Revenues produce but 800,000 l. a Year; whereas they produce vastly more; for even according to that righteous Way of casting them up, which past Experience shew'd us in the Affair of the 115,000 l. they are allow'd to produce 818,000 L. upon a Medium. To this must be added the Revenues of Scotland, which are about 40,000 l. a Year; and if We only add the 70,000 l. a Year given for the Gin-Act, the whole will amount to 928,000 l. There are many, who would gladly give the King a Sum certain of 900,000 L. a Year rather than have the Revenues continued in the Manner they are at present; and yet out of this moderate Revenue, the Prince of Wales is allow'd but 50,000 l. a Year; though bis present Majesty had, whilst Prince of Wales, 100,000 1. when the late King had but 563,800 l. a Year.

The whole Expence of the civil Government &c. in Queen Anne's Reign, according to a Paper of Lord Godolphin, is estimated at but 430,000 l. per Annum. Besides, She gave

for publick Services above 700,000 l. By Lord Carlisle's Proposals to his late Majesty, the whole Expences of the Civil-List came but to 523,000 l. a Year; in which likewise was included the 36,200 l. a Year for Pensions, which

his present Majesty does not pay.

Nay farther; his present Majesty hath had in Money from the People, without reckoning Votes of Credit, for a pretended Deficiency, but call'd in Parliament an Arrear, for his first Year's Civil-List, 115,000 l.; for a Portion for the Princess of Orange, (the Civil-List not being fufficient to make that honourable Provision) 80,000 L; to which must be added the Saving, that hath been hitherto made of the Prince of Wales's Revenue. We may therefore justly conclude that it is high Time He should have what was so justly design'd Him by Parliament; fince We have already shewn that so poor an Allowance was never given to any Heir apparent, or presumptive, in Proportion to the immense Revenues, which the Crown at prefent enjoys. The rendering this 50,000 l. a Year not precarious, by granting Letters patent for it, as urg'd in the Debate, was no Doubt a mighty Boon; though it was there shewn that the Charges of the Establishment only of their present Royal Highnesses (as made and appointed for Thern by his Majesty) amounted to 63,000 l, a Year; and This is to be paid out of 46,000 l. a Year, (for 4000 l. was shewn

(33)

shewn to be deducted for Fees &c.) and the good l. from the Dutchy of Cornwall; which makes in the whole but 55,000 l. a Year clear; so that there was 8000 l. a Year short to pay the Expences of the Establishment made for Him.

This Article of the Taxes was fo self-evident, that it was thought proper to run a Clause of Exception in the Land-Tax Bill, not only without the Knowledge of the House, but even of the Speaker, who always takes the utmost Care to prevent such Impositions; and it was discover'd in the other House by the blundering Manner of engroffing it. This afterwards occasion'd a very long and warm Debate in the House of Commons; and all that was urg'd in Justification of it was, that it might prevent another disagreeable Debate upon this Head; as if something of this Nature would certainly be mention'd, when the Bill for the fointure should be brought in. By these means, the People are farther loaded in their Land-Tax, and otherwise, to supply the private Bounties of a very few, and without having the Merit of giving an Increase to the Allowance of his Royal Highness. Thus may the People, who bear the Burthen, be robb'd of the Thanks and Acknowledgment of the Prince; whilst it was done only to exonerate the Civil-List, at the Expence of the Nation. as too many Things have been done already;

for confidering his Majesty's Warrant, and the Date of it, as well as the Letters patent to his Royal Highness, He gives Him 50,000 l. a Year, clear of all Taxes, Impositions and Fees; the Consequence of which is, that his Majesty was to pay for all those Deductions, and that his Royal Highnels was to receive the 50,000 l. in net Money. This would have been a Charge upon the Civil-List, and have render'd the Saving upon the 100,000 l. a Year so much less. But That is dextrously got back again, and laid upon the Publick; by which means this additional Liberality costs the Civil-List nothing. That his Majesty design'd to give the Prince something more is very plain; for it cannot be supposed that He should make a Grant, by which He articled to pay his Royal Highness fo much more net Money, and yet did not intend to pay that Part, which He was engaged to do to make it so. It must certainly be the most extraordinary Grant, that was ever made, if it can be understood to mean that though the Crown stipulates for the Payment of the Money, a Clause is to be slipt into a Land-Tax Bill for laying it on the Publick, without their knowing any Thing of the Matter, to ease the Civil-List. Either that Clause in the Act of Parliament, or his Majesty's granting it in fuch a Manner, was unnecessary. If the Warrant for the Letters patent was fign'd before the Land-Tax Bill was brought

(35)

in, which was the 16th of March, the Clause was as unnecessary, with Regard to the Prince, as is was, on the other Hand, to have it in the Letters patent after it was in an AEt of Parliament; when, at the same Time, Those, who knew of its being in the one, knew of its being in the other. This plainly shews that it was not foisted in there without a View; and supposing it had not been discover'd by the Accident already mention'd, is it probable that it would have been ever found out by the Members of either House reading a printed Land Tax AEt by Way of an elegant-Amusement; fince this very Thing shews We all know so little of what ought to be in such Bills, that hardly any Body gives Himself the Trouble of reading them, when it is more material? And if any Persons, who are not Members, had fallen upon the Place, by Accident, They would naturally conclude that it could not have been done, without the Knowledge and particular Consent of the House, since it was fo new a Thing; from whence it might, have happen'd that We should be told next Year, if there should be another Motion for an Address, that his Majesty had, since the last Session, most bountifully increased the Allowance of his Royal Highness to the Value of 7000 l. a Year; for the Land-Tax, at two Shillings in the Pound, is 5000 l. the Sixpenny Duty to the Civil-List Lottery is 1250 l. E 2

and about 750 l. more for Fees, &c. It is probable, I fay, that This might have been urged; fince it was thought an additional Allowance from the King to his Royal Highness, according to the Warrant, till this important Discovery was made; by which it appears to be fo much Money granted annually to the Civil-List, without the Knowledge of the People, or its being of any Benefit to his Royal Highness. This Proceeding is the less to be justify'd, considering that the first Exemption of their Royal Highnesses, the Princesses, and their Annuities, Officers and Servants, from Taxes, was done publickly by a Claufe offer'd for that Purpose, in the Land-Tax Bill for the Year 1728; which therefore made it the less to be suspected that the Prince's was to pass in the Dark. The Danger of this Method of proceeding was set forth in a very strong Light; and likewise how, by the same Means, the Civil-List was discharged, in the last Reign, of 36,200 l. a Year in Pensions, which have ever fince been a Burthen upon the Publick.

But let us consider this Point in another Light. His Royal Highness, before He married, had 24,000 l. a Year from the King; his Table kept for Him, which was valued by Themselves at 15,000 l. a Year; and 9,000 l. a Year from Cornwal; which make together 48,000 l. a Year. Then deduct 1800 l. for Fees &c. which reduced it to 46,200 l. and it

(37)

will appear that He had but 8,800 *l*. a Year more then to pay for all the additional Expences and Charges, which are necessary to support a *Princess of Wales*, and all her Family, suitable to her high Rank and Dignity, as well as the Expectations of the Nation; though She is now to have 50,000 *l*. a Year to maintain Herself and Family, without the *Prince*, if She and We should be so unfortunate as to lose Him; and yet that no more should be given to support Them both, than the 9000 *l*. a Year from the Dutchy of Cornwal, must occasion Resections too invidious to be mention'd.

This is 4 or 5000 l. a Year short of their Establishment; and considering the due Care taken, both in the Land-Tax and Jointure-AEts, to exempt not only what is already granted, but likewise what shall be granted to his Royal Highness, from Fees and Taxes, it may be fairly concluded that Those, who were for addressing his Majesty to settle 50,000 l. a Year upon her Royal Highness, were right in judging of the Sum, if They had not the Influence to obtain it for Her; fince it is very observable, in his Majesty's Message, that tho' He fays He hath given Orders for settling a Jointure upon the Princess, yet there is no Mention made of the Sum; and it is probable that if 50,000 l. a Year had been then intended, it would have been particularly mention'd.

tion'd, in order to prevent that Part of the Debate, and Motion for an Address. It cannot therefore be any longer doubted that, before the next Session of Parliament, his Royal Highness the Prince will obtain the same Success in the other Part of the Motion; for it will look very odd that She should have the same Jointure with her Predecessor, and that He should not have the same Allowance, which his Predecessor had.

What Treatment is This, to be told that it shall be no longer a precarious Maintenance? From whence it must be supposed to be a sufficient, independent one; tho', at the same Time, it must force Him into one or other of these difagreeable Circumstances; either that He must no longer keep up the high Rank and Dignity of a Prince and Princess of Wales, which some Persons may think will make Him look little in the Eyes of the World, and therefore not so much respected; or else He must labour under all the Uneafiness of supporting the Grandeur of the Nation, by running in Debt; or lastly fall under the Necessity of courting an insolent Minister, to supply from Time to Time the Deficiency; which is a Dependency too dishonourable for Him, or the Nation to suffer.

Nothing can be more dangerous to the Liberties of the People than an overgrown Civil-List; and fince the present does, or at least will. (39)

will, from some late Gains to it, produce about 900,000 l. a Year, it becomes the more neceffary to fee a due Application of the original Grant, which alone can help to leffen those Dangers We may have Reason to apprehend from its being so wantonly and profusely bestow'd, as it was in the last Reign; or from Those, which may arise from the Thoughts of its being lock'd up for any fuch future Uses. These Revenues are become a Cause of Jealousy and Uneafiness amongst the People; since Those, who have the Management of the whole Revenues of the Nation, are not accountable to the Publick upon this Head; which leaves a Poffibility, at least, of Sums being taken from the publick Revenues, for the Use of the Civil-Lift, if not for the Minister himself; who having the fole Power of making up these Accounts, without any Inspection on Him, or even a Possibility of the several Offices knowing what He charges for their Share of these Revenues, the Crown itself is very liable to be defrauded; especially, if it should happen to be in such a Situation, as neither to hear or believe any Thing but from such a Minister; nor would it be then surprizing, if a Revenue of 900,000 l. a Year should be call'd but 800,000 l.

I would not be thought here to infinuate that all This is actually done; yet as every Opportunity is taken to increase the Civil-Lift, even at the Expence of all other publick Reve-

nues

(40)

nues, which were once so facred under the Denomination of the sinking Fund, I should not wonder if fuch Attempts were made by any Minister, who reigns without Controll. But as the finking Fund is now become not only an Orphan but a Prostitute, and hath been made common to all U/es, it retains nothing of that sacred Character it once bore, which is now intirely transferr'd to the Civil-List. There We pay all our Infence, and there centers all the Tribute of the Land. But what this Increase is, and what the Sum total, is a Mystery, it seems, not to be exposed to the Vulgar. It hath been acknowledged, as We have already observed, that it exceeds 800,000 L. a Year. Others compute it above 900,000 l. But as this sacred Fund is intirely in the Hands of one Man, &c. the King himself can have no Account of it but from Him, and Those, who affist Him; and They, no Doubt would cheque and discover all Attempts to defraud, or impose on his Majesty. If therefore his Majesty be fatisfy'd that his Revenue is no more than, what is given out to his People, He must have better Lights than what the Parliament have, to whom the Minister is not accountable.

But let this Fund be never so sacred, for Reasons of State, where is the Danger to the Crown, if the Income of the Civil-List was publish'd every Year, and fixt upon the Royal Exchange? As to the Issues of the Civil-List,

(4I)

We agree they are facred and mysterious, and will be so as long as Parliaments are in Being; but there can be no Pretence for concealing the Income, unless it be to abate the publick Envy, and hide from the People the too great Liberality of Parliaments. I do not therefore doubt to see the Minister, for his own Honour, laying just and fair Accounts before the Parliament of the Incomes of this Revenue, and calling for a Committee to examine them.

Who is not truely sensible Himself, or can doubt that his Majesty is not so, from his own Experience, that the Ties of Duty, Gratitude and Affection are sufficient to create a just and proper Dependency on Him; of which We so happily perceive the Effects, that We can have no Pretence for not taking the same Care of his Royal Highness, as the Parliaments have ever done of the next Heir of the Crown, since They have kept the Royal Family, and have had the Disposition of their own Money; especially, as late Experience shews Us that no Inconveniency hath arisen from the Independency of the Heir apparent, but some Advantages, as We may all remember?

Confidering likewise the Age, Experience, and Knowledge of his Royal Highness, together with his being so happily marry'd, for the Welfare of this Nation, it is now surely Time for Him to enjoy those Honours, Revenues and Independency, which have ever been hitherto annex'd

(42)

annex'd to his high Rank and Dignity; nor can there be any Reason assign'd why He should not be out of his Leading-strings, and trusted in the same Degree as all Those, who have gone before Him in that high Station; for He hath gain'd the Esteem and Afections of the People in such a Manner as must endear Him to his Royal Parents, whose bright Examples shew what stronger Ties there are in Nature than a Dependency for a Maintenance only; which the less dependent it is, the more would it conduce to the strengthening of his Majesty's Government, and the Support of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown.

The many late Additions to the Civil-Lift, obtain'd unask'd for, unthank'd for, and even unknown to the People; as the Surplus of the Civil-List Lottery of 1713, which amounts to 16,400%. a Year, not only without Consent of Parliament, but not very agreeable to the Laws; as likewise the 70,000 l. a Year given for the Gin-AEt; these, I say, were alone sufficient to enable his Majesty to increase his Royal Highness's present Allowance to the design'd 100,000 l. a Year; which will otherwise make the People very apprehensive that such Overflowings, together with the Prince's formerly intended Share, may be hereafter apply'd, by a corrupt Minister, to defeat that very Settle(43)

ment, for which the Civil-List was originally

granted and intended.

As it hath therefore always been the undoubted Privilege of both Houses of Parliament to give Advice to the Crown in all Things whatsoever, which They shall judge necessary for the Good of the whole; and as it is a wife Maxim, both in our Law and Constitution, that the King can do no Wrong, but the Ministers are made accountable for every Thing, both as to Action and Advice; much more therefore in the Affairs of the Children of the Crown (whom the Laws of this Realm look upon as the Children of the Publick) We ought to interfere and advise, when those Revenues, which have been defign'd Them by the Nation, have not been apply'd to their Use; since Parliaments formerly did it, even when the Revenues of the Crown were its own Inheritance; for though it is true that Westminster-Hall is not a proper Judge of the Intention of an Act of Parliament, (though too often those chief Justices, the Commissioners of Excise are) yet till now it never was disputed that the Parliament, or either House, were not Judges of their own Intentions, which They might fignify to the Crown in whatever Form They thought the Necessity of the Case required; nor can it be conceived that if They have a. Right, upon any Occasion, to take back Part of their Grant to the Civil-List, though the

(44)

whole is granted for Life, upon fome Uses ceasing, for which it was made so ample, though not express'd any otherwise than This was, by Notoriety only; They must have a Right, and ought to exert it, when those Revenues are not apply'd to what they were originally intended; and They feem more particularly to have a Right, and ought often to confider the Intention of those Acts, which give fuch vast Civil-Lists to the Crown; since they are granted in general Words, which include every Thing, as in the Case of King William; where the Grant is thus worded; " * that it " is intended that the yearly Sum of 700,000 l. " shall be supply'd to his Majesty for the " Service of his Household and Family, and " for other his necessary Expences and Oc-" casions." - Where, not with standing the Grant was so general, and the particular Expences cannot be traced from any Accounts call'd for at that Time on the Journals of Parliament, nor any publick Appeal to past Experience; yet there was a Confidence placed in the Crown for the Payment of certain annual Sums to several Branches of the Royal Family, though not one of Them is named in the Act, not even the Princess of Denmark's 50,000 l. a Year, which She had always out of it. Nevertheless, the House of Commons in 170took into Confideration their own Intention in granting the AEt; for it appears on their Your-

(45)

nals, "that Mr. Convers (according to Order) " reported from the Committee of the whole " House, to whom it was refer'd to consider " of Ways and Means for raising the Supply " granted to his Majesty, that He was directed " by the faid Committee to move the House for " Leave to apply 100,000 l. a Year, Part of " the Sum of 700,000 l. granted for the Ser-" vice of his Majesty's Household and other " Expences and Occasions towards the Pay-" ment of the publick Debts, the Occasions, " for which the said 100,000 l. was given, be-"ing now ceased."—Which was agreed to, and the Sum beforemention'd accordingly taken away. This is a Precedent full in every Point. They had no Occasion to address the Throne for an Application of it to what They intended; but upon the publick Notoriety of the Uses ceasing, for which They design'd it, without any other Reservation of it to the People, They took it back again. That it was reckon'd at 100,000 l. a Year, feems to have been computed upon these Heads; the 50,000 l. a Year, that was to have been paid to King James the second's Queen; the 30,000 l. a Year Dower to Queen Catherine; and 20,000 l. a Year to the Duke of Gloucester. None of these Articles were in the Act, any more than the Prince of Wales's in his present Majesty's Civil-List Act; yet upon their ceasing, or being no longer paid, the Form of Confidence, which

^{* 9} and 10 of W. 3. Cap. 23. Sect. 13.

They had placed in the Crown for those Uses, no longer subsisted, and therefore They had a Right to apply it to others, as They did. The passing of This into a Law shews how justly fensible King William was that He was only Trustee for the People, as the Crown is in all Grants of Money, for the Use of the Publick, and even for its own particular Service. Was ever an Estimate of the Salaries of the Judges, and many other Expences of the like Nature, laid before the Parliament, at the Time of granting the Civil-Lists, or inserted in any of those Asts? Yet, according to this new Doctrine, what would it avail the People of England that one great Bulwark of their Liberties, was having their Judges intended to continue for Life, if the Crown could get rid of Them, by not paying their Salaries, or lessening them, and thereby forcing Them to a more ready Complyance with their Views? Would not Westminster-Hall then urge the Intention of the Legislature, and that They came under the Words civil Government, as the Prince of Wales now comes under Those of making an honourable Provision for the Royal Family? As the same Confidence was placed in his

As the same Considence was praced in instant late Majesty, when We compleated the Civil-List to 700,000 l. a Year, for supporting the Dignity of the Crown, and making an honourable Provision for the Royal Family; every Intention of Parliament was immediately comply'd

(47)

ply'd with, and in ten Days after his Majesty notify'd his having order'd Letters patent for 100,000 l. a Year accordingly to his then Royal

Highness, the Prince of Wales.

The present great Civil-List was granted upon the same Trust and Confidence. Why therefore ought it not to be equally comply'd with, even when the very wording of the Grant is so far from weakening it, on the Foot of former Precedents, that it is rather enforcing them? For it runs thus. "Being defirous " that a competent Revenue, for defraying the " Expence of your Majesty's civil Government, " and BETTER supporting the Dignity of the " Grown of Great Britain, during your Life, "(which God long preferve!) may be fettled "upon your Majesty, and that your Majesty " be enabled to make an honourable Provision " for your Royal Family &c."—Where is the Difference, as to the Prince of Wales, in this Form and his late Majesty's Grant of it; unless it be that it is so vastly increased, for the BET-TER supporting the Dignity of the Crown, and making an honourable Provision for the Royal Family? Can it be infer'd from hence that his present Royal Highness was design'd to have but one Half of what his Predecessor had? The People will not be convinced by this Way of Reasoning, nor satisfy'd with such Proceedings; for if He hath not a Right to any more. They may probably infift upon their Right

Right of having it apply'd to the Benefit of the

Publick.

The Consideration therefore of the Allowance to be given his Royal Highness depends intirely upon this Proposition; whether or no He hath done any Thing unworthy of the former good Opinion and Hopes, which this Nation conceived of Him, when They intended Him the same Revenue bis Predecessor enjoy'd, and in Proportion to all other Princes of Wales, that have gone before Him. The two Sons, Princes of Wales, in Henry the seventh's Time, could with the third Part of their Lands a lone make a sufficient Jointure for the richest Princess then in Europe. What Proportion does This bear to the Jointure of 50,000 l. a Year to the present Princess of Wales? In the Time of King James the 1st. the Prince of Wales had 46,000 l. a Year; though He had no Princess; yet the Queen Consort had but 24,500 l. The Duke of York's Revenue was 104,000 l. a Year; but Queen Catherine's Jointure was but 30,000 l. a Year, and less if She lived abroad. The Jointure of King James the second's Queen was but 50,000 l. a Year. The Fortunes of King James's Daughters were no more than 40,000 l. a Piece. But fince We are so happy as to see this Nation in such flourishing Circumstances, and so abounding in Wealth, that They can chearfully afford the doubling of every Allowance to her present Majesty,

(49)

jesty, as well as Fortunes to the Princesses; it will be extremely furprizing to find that the Heir apparent of the Crown must be cut off with one Half of what his immediate Predeceffor enjoy'd; for which Reason alone the Civil-List was 700,000 l. a Year, in the last Reign, and in This 900,000 l. a Year, to supply the Half. Yet whoever confiders the Expence, that is necessary for keeping up the Grandeur and Dignity of a Prince and Princess of Wales, will find much more wanting than what keeps a Queen-Confort, who lives with the King; and whilst only 8,800 l. a Year is allow'd for supporting the Expences of a Princess of Wales, her present Majesty enjoys an Allowance of 50,000 l. a Year, in which every Body rejoices, though till her Time it was the highest Dower, that was ever given to a Queen of England.

Precedents are of a growing Nature, and the Nation ought to be extremely cautious of Those, which give an Increase of Revenue to the Crown; for there is not one Precedent to be found of giving less than what was given to their Predecessor's. But if the Poverty of the People call aloud for all possible Savings to ease Them; then not only whatever Part is not given to the Prince ought to be remitted to the Publick, but the same wise and impartial Precedent ought to be follow'd in every Branch of the Civil-List, as well as in the expensive Manner of keeping up our Army, and almost every

Part

(50)

Part of the current Service. In this Case, the People might rejoice, and his Royal Highness might be better pleased, since He would have his Proportion of their Wealth, as well as their Zeal and Affection.

I have now shewn that the present Civil-List, was augmented, in order to enable his Majesty to settle the same Provision upon his Royal Highness, which was settled upon Himself, when Prince of Wales, as affirm'd by Those, who spoke for it, and deny'd by none expresly, but only distinguish'd by a Chicane in the Law, as not being appropriated by express Words in the AEt of Parliament; to which Some were ridiculous enough to affent, by drawing down the high Jurisdiction of Parliament to the Level of Westminster-Hall. This was at once absolving the Crown from all Obligations of Trust and Confidence reposed in it by Parliament, and would be of great Service in explaining away a Vote of Credit, so often put in Practice of late, when the Uses are not express'd. But as this Doctrine hath been fully exploded in both Houses, and the Custom and Usage of Parliament shewn to be contrary to it; I must leave it to You to judge whether, in Justice and Equity, He is not intitled to this Provision; whether He hath not Reason to expect it from the Favour and Affection of his Royal Father; whether the Publick is not interested in seeing the Dignity of the Prince of Wales supported, according to the Intenti(51)

ons of Parliament; and, in short, whether the Application of a Parliament (which hath refused nothing, that the Crown could ask) be not the most proper and dutiful Way of approaching the Throne, upon this Occasion. I shall conclude with observing that it is imposfible for the Influence of any Man to prevail long against the Affection of the Prince, and the Desires of the People. Though nothing is yet done for Him, a good Motion like This never dies, till it hath forced its Way through all the Intrigues and Power of Those, who durst presume to scatter Terrors, in * Scraps of Latin, against the HEIR APPARENT OF THE CROWN OF GREAT BRITAIN.

I am, SIR, Yours.

* ___ immedicabile vulnus Ense rescindendum.



APPENDIX.

His MAJESTY'S

MESSAGE

TOTHE

PRINCE of WALES,

BY THE

Lord Chancellor, Lord President, Lord Steward, Lord Chamberlain; Dukes of Richmond, Argyle, Newcastle; Earls of Pembroke, Scarborough, and Lord Harrington; which, being in Writing, was as follows, viz.

IS Majesty has commanded Us to acquaint your Royal Highness, in his Name, that, upon your Royal Highness Marriage, He immediately took into his Royal Consideration the settling a proper Jointure upon the Princess of Wales; but his sudden going Abroad, and his late Indisposition since his Return,

turn, had hitherto retarded the Execution of these his gracious Intentions; for which short Delay his Majesty did not apprehend any Inconveniences could arise, especially since no Application had, in any Manner, been made to Him upon this Subject by your Royal High-ness; and that his Majesty hath now given Orders for settling a Jointure upon the Princess of Wales, as far as He is enabled by Law, suitable to her high Rank and Dignity; which He will, in proper Time, lay before his Parliament, in order to be render'd certain and essectual, for the Benesit of her Royal Highness.

The King has further commanded us to acquaint your Royal Highness that, although your Royal Highness has not thought fit, by any Application to His Majesty, to desire that your Allowance of Fifty Thousand Pounds per Annum, which is now paid You by monthly Payments, at the Choice of your Royal Highness, preferably to Quarterly Payments, might, by his Majesty's farther Grace and Favour, be render'd less precarious, his Majesty, to prevent the bad Consequences, which, He apprehends, may follow from the undutiful Meafures, which, his Majesty is inform'd, your Royal Highness has been advised to pursue, will grant to your Royal Highness, for his Majesty's Life, the said Fifty Thousand Pounds per Annum, to be issuing out of his Majesty's Civil-List Revenues, over and above your

Royal

And to this Message his Royal Highness the Prince return'd a verbal Answer; which, according to the best Recollection and Remembrance of the Lords, was in Substance as follows, viz.

That his Royal Highness desired the Lords to lay Him, with all Humility, at his Majesty's Feet; and to assure his Majesty, that He had, and ever should retain the utmost Duty for his Royal Person; that his Royal Highness was very thankful for any Instance of his Majesty's Goodness to Him, or the Princess, and particularly for his Majesty's gracious Intention of settling a Jointure upon her Royal Highness; but that, as to the Message, the Affair was now out of his Hands, and therefore He could give no Answer to

After which, his Royal Highness used many dutiful Expressions towards his Majesty, and then added, "Indeed, my Lords, it is in "other Hands; I am forry for it," or to that Effect.

APPENDIX.

55

His Royal Highness concluded with earnestly desiring the Lords, to represent his Answer to his Majesty in the most respectful and dutiful Manner.

THE

Lords PROTEST,

ONTHE

MOTION to Address His Majesty to settle 100,000 l. per Annum

ONTHE

PRINCE of WALES.

Die Martis 25° Februarij 1736.

HE House being moved, that an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, to express the just Sense of this House of his Majesty's great Goodness and tender Regard for the lasting Welfare and Happiness of his People, in the Marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; and as this House cannot omit any Opportunity of shewing their Zeal and Regard for his Majesty's Honour, and

and the Prosperity of his Family, humbly to befeech his Majesty, that, in Consideration of the high Rank and Dignity of their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales. and their many eminent Virtues and Merits, He would be graciously pleased to settle 100,000 %. a Year on the Prince of Wales, out of the Revenues chearfully granted to his Majesty, (for the Expences of his civil Government, and better supporting the Dignity of the Crown, and for enabling his Majesty to make an honourable Provision for his Family) in the same Manner his Majesty enjoy'd it before his happy Accession to the Throne; and also humbly to befeech his Majesty, to settle the like Jointure on her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, as her Majesty had, when She was Princess of Wales, and to assure his Majesty, that this House will be ready to do every Thing on their Part, to perform the same, as nothing will more conduce to the strengthening of his Majesty's Government, than honourably supporting the Dignity of their Royal Highnesses, from whom we hope to see a numerous Issue, to deliver down the Blessings of his Majesty's Reign to the latest Posterity.

The Duke of Newcastle, by his Majesty's Command, made the like Signification to the House of the Message sent by his Majesty in Writing to the Prince of Wales, and of the Re-

port of his Royal Highness's verbal Answer, as is printed in the Votes of the House of Commons on the 22d Instant.

APPENDIX.

And the same being read by the Lord Chancellor,

After a long Debate upon the foregoing Motion,

The Question was put, whether such an Address shall be presented to his Majesty? It was resolved in the Negative. Contents 28. Proxies 12. In all 40.

Not Content 79. Proxies 24. In all 103.

Dissentient.

1. Because this House has an undoubted Right to offer, in an humble Address to his Majesty, their Sense upon all Subjects, in which this House shall conceive that the Honour and Interest of the Nation are concern'd.

- 2. Because the Honour and Interest of the Nation, Crown, and Royal Family, can be concern'd in nothing more, than in having a due and independent Provision made for the first-born Son, and Heir apparent to the Crown.
- 3. Because, in the late King's Reign, 100,000 l. a Year, clear of all Deductions what-soever, was settled upon his present Majesty, when Prince of Wales, out of a Civil-List not exceeding 700,000 l. a Year.

4. Because his present Majesty had granted Him by Parliament several Funds to compose a Civil-List of 800,000 l. a Year, which we have very good Reason to believe bring in at least 900,000 l. and are more likely to increase than to diminish.

5. Because out of this extraordinary and growing Civil-List, We humbly conceive his Majesty may be able to make an honourable Provision for the rest of his Royal Family, without any Necessity of lessening that Revenue which, in his own Case, when He was Prince of Wales, the Wisdom of Parliament adjudged to be a proper Maintenance for the first-born Son, and Heir apparent of the Crown.

6. Because it is the undoubted Right of Parliament to explain the Intention of their own Acts, and to offer their Advice in Pursuance thereof. And though, in the inferior Courts of Westminster-hall, the Judges can only consider an Act of Parliament according to the Letter and express Words of the Act, the Parliament itself may proceed in a higher Way, by declaring what was their Sense in passing it, and on what Grounds; especially in a Matter recent, and within the Memory of many in the House, as well as out of it.

7. Because there were many obvious and good Reasons, why the Sum of 100,000 l. per Annum for the Prince, was not specify'd in

the Act pass'd at that Time, particularly his being a Minor, and unmarry'd. But we do apprehend, that it is obvious that the Parliament would not have granted to his Majesty so great a Revenue above That of the late King, but with an Intention that 100,000 l. a Year should at a proper Time be settled on the Prince, in the same Manner as it was enjoy'd by his Royal Father, when He was Prince of Wales. And his Royal Highness being now thirty Years old, and most happily marry'd, We apprehend it can no longer be delay'd, without Prejudice to the Honour of the Family, the Right of the Prince, and Intention of the Parliament. And as in many Cases the Crown is known to stand as Trustee for the Publick, upon Grants in Parliament; so We humbly conceive that in this Case, according to the Intention of Parliament, the Crown stands as Trustee for the Prince, for the aforefaid Sum.

APPENDIX.

8. Because We do conceive, that the present Princess of Wales ought to have the like Jointure that her present Majesty had, when She was Princess of Wales, and that it would be for the Honour of the Crown, that no Distinction whatsoever should be made between Persons of equal Rank and Dignity.

9. Because We apprehend, that it has always been the Policy of this Country, and Care of Parliament, that a suitable Provision, independent

dent of the Crown, should be made for the Heir apparent, that by shewing Him early the Ease and Dignity of Independence, he may learn by his own Experience, how a great and free People should be govern'd. And as We are convinced in our Consciences, that if this Question had been pass'd in the Affirmative, it would have prevented all future Uneasiness that may unhappily rise upon this Subject, by removing the Cause of such Uneasiness, and giving his Royal Highness what We apprehend to be his Right; We make use of the Privileges inherent in Members of this House to clear ourselves to all Posterity from being concern'd in laying it aside.

upon us to infift upon this Motion, for the Sake of this Royal Family, under which alone we are fully convinced we can live Free, and under the Royal Family we are fully determined we will live Free.

Winchelfea and Nottingham, Berksbire, Cobham, Chesterfield, Cardigan, Marlborough, Carteret, Bridgwater,
Bedford,
Weymouth,
Bathurst,
Coventry,
Ker,
Suffolk.

F I N I S.

P. Age 6. Line 13. strike out the Word not. — P. 11. L. 15. instead of Convention of Parliament, read Convention Parliament. — P. 35. L. 15. strike out the Words, little of, and this Royal Family. read