

Anno 2. Will. & Mary
Parl. 1. Sep. 2

The extreme hatred & jealousy that began to appear towards the end of the last Session between the Whiggs & Tories, broke out with more violence during the recess of Parliament. great pains were taken to impress the King's mind with suspicions of the Whiggs, they were represented as a Faction endeavouring to destroy the Prerogative, that while they asserted Liberty & made the strongest resolutions against those illegal Acts that had brought on the Revolution, they intended to destroy the power of the Crown, & enslave them they had plac'd upon it.

All methods were us'd on the other side to

infuse into the Whiggs a distrust of the King, it was insinuated that He grew tired of their obsequancy & wished to ballance their power by making Friends with the opposite party whose principles were more calculated to augment the Prerogative.

However these things were magnified on all sides, some truth perhaps gave rise to both assertions, the Whiggs had certainly disgusted the King, familiar with him as J. of Orange, they scarce knew how to treat Him as their Sovereign; in the closet they had instead of advising prescribed to Him, & He frequently met with strong repulses from them in delicate points that He had most at heart.

As to the Whiggs they affirmed that the War had been neglected in Ireland, that the

request of both Houses to see the Minutes relative
thereto were not comply'd with; they complain'd
also of the backwardness of the Dutch Fleet &
accordingly the Commons towards the end of
the last Meeting, in a General Committee on
the State of the Nation, came to the three
following resolutions.

1. That there had been delays in the
succour of Ireland.

2. That there had been a want of preparation
for transporting forces thither.

3. That many Ships had been taken for want
of Convoys.

With regard to the Tories their leaders had
turn'd their backs on their old Master, & shew'd
great disposition to serve their new one with
most unbounded complaisance, & were told
they actually made several offers of their services.

through Lord Nottingham.

If such was the real state of things (& so it appears to be) the King's conduct may be easily accounted for, to prefer the merit of present complaisance to that of past obligation is not peculiar to a Monarch, 'tis an ungrateful truth too often met with in ordinary life.

On the 19th of Oct. the King opened the session with a speech, from the Throne, wherein He recommends reasonable & effectual supplies, with a Bill of Indemnity, & to make things go better down with the Whiggs, Barn Atkins was nam'd Speaker of the House of Lords in the room of Lord Halifax who had been prevail'd upon to resign.

'Tis remarkable that the King declar'd to His Privy Council this speech

to be His own composition unassisted by any Minister, which declaration seems at first sight to bear hard on His Cabinet, but they certainly had previous knowledge of it, & did not dislike the novelty, since it promis'd to facilitate the business of the session as the King made Himself answerable for his own measures.

An Unanimous Vote of Thanks pass'd, & an Address was order'd to be presented, this had a favourable appearance, notwithstanding the King came to the Throne again the 21st & prorog'd the Parliament to the 23rd.

By this piece of Ministerial craft, all proceedings on the Bills left in suspense at the last sitting were stop'd, among which was the very important one for restoring Corporations weaken'd & destroy'd by the

Quo-Warranto, a Bill that ought to have gone hand in hand with the Revolution, but times were chang'd, & the measure that threw inevitably the Weight of the Representatives into the scale of the Whiggs could not at present ~~omit~~ the intention of the Court.

The House had bound themselves by resolutions of July the 4th to proceed on the Bills depending, among which were two relating to the Revenue, one a Review of the Poll Bill, & the other an additional tax on Coffee, Tea, & Chocolate. These therefore were lost for the sake of dismissing the Corporation Bill, & I readed by the Copy.

The prorogation measure was certainly a strong one; but it does not appear whether the Whiggs had been consulted in it, nor do we know of any