

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I should most willingly have consulted Your private Convenience by allowing You a longer Recess from Business, if I had not thought that some very important Parts of the Publick Service required the immediate Attention of Parliament.

It is impossible that I can look with Indifference upon whatever concerns either the Commerce and Revenue of the Kingdom at large, or the private Rights and Interests of considerable Numbers among My People, neither can I be insensible how materially every one of these

great

Should
precede
1435
H. M.
Speech
Nov.
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great Objects must be interested
in the maintenance of the Credit
and Prosperity of the East India
Company. When therefore I
received Information of the
Difficulties in which that Company
appear to be involved, I determined
to give You an early Opportunity,
of informing Yourselves fully of
the true State of their Affairs;
and of making such Provisions
for the common Benefit and
Security of all the various Interests
concerned, as You shall find best
adapted to the Exigencies of the
Case.

I have the Satisfaction to
acquaint You that there is reason
to hope that the War which has

so long unhappily prevailed in one Part of Europe, is now drawing to a Conclusion; and although there was no probability of Our being involved therein, yet the discontinuance of those Troubles will afford a fairer Prospect of the duration of Peace, which I trust the Alterations that have happened in Europe will not in their Consequences affect.

I continue to receive from Foreign Powers the strongest Assurances of their pacifick Dispositions towards this Country; and it shall be My constant Endeavour to preserve the general Tranquility, as far as is consistent with the Honour of My Crown, and the Interests of My People.

Gentlemen

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

It gives Me much Satisfaction that the continuance of Peace has enabled Me to proceed in the reduction of the establishment of My Naval Forces; but You will, I am confident, agree with Me, that a considerable Strength at Sea must be ever necessary for preserving the Reputation and Power of My Kingdoms.

The proper Estimates for the ensuing Year shall be laid before You, and whatever Supplies You may grant, shall, on My Part, be managed with the strictest Oeconomy, and applied with the utmost Fidelity.

My Lords

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I cannot but feel the most
real Concern that the Produce
of the late Harvest has not
given Us the Relief which We
had hoped for in respect to the
deariness of Corn. As far as
human Wisdom can provide
for alleviating the Distresses of
the Poor, I am persuaded Your
Attention will not be wanting,
and You cannot gratify Me
more than by calling upon Me
for My Concurrence, in whatever
may contribute to the true
Welfare and Happiness of all
My People.

26 Nov
1972