

*A copy of a Letter sent by Liev. Col. John Lilburne to Mr. Wol-
laston Keeper of Newgate or his Deputy.*

SIR, I this morning have seen a Warrant from the house of Lords, made yesterday, to Command you to bring me this day at 10. a clocke before them, the Warrant expresseth no cause wherefore I should dance attendance before them, neither doe I know any ground or reason wherefore I should, nor any Law that compels me thereunto; for Their Lordships sitting by vertue of Prerogative, patents and not by Election or common consent of the People, hath as *Magna Carta* (and other good Lawes of the Land) tels me, nothing to doe to try me, or any Commoner whatsoever in any criminall case, either for life, limb, libertie, or estate, but contrary hereunto as incrochers and usurpers upon my freedoms and liberties; they lately and illegally endeavoured to trie me a Commoner at their Bar, for which I under my hand and seale, protested to their faces against them, as violent and illegall incrochers upon the rights and liberties of me, and all the Commons of England, (a copy of which &c. I in Print herewith send you) and at their Barre I openly appealed to my competent, proper, legall tryers, and Iudges, the Commons of England assembled in Parliament (for which their Lordships did illegally, Arbitrarily, and Tiranically, commit me to prison into your custody) unto whom divers daies agoe I sent my appeale &c. which now remains in the hands of their speaker, if it be not already read in their House, unto which I doe and will stand and obey their commands.

Sir, I am a free-man of England, and therefore I am not to be used as a slave or Vassell by the Lords, which they have already done and would further doe, I also am a man of peace & quietnes, & desire not to molest any if I be not forced there unto, therefore I desire you as you tender my good & your owne, take this for an answer, that I canot without turning traitor to my liberties, dance attendance to their Lordships Bar, being bound in conscience, duty, to God, my selfe, myne, & my country, to oppose their incroachments to the death, which by the strength of God I am resolved to doe. Sir you may, or cause to be exercised upon me, some force or violence to pull and drag me out of my chamber, which I am resolved to maintaine as long as I can, before I will be compelled to goe before them, and therefore I desire you, in a friendly way, to be wise and considerate before you doe that, which it may be you can never undoe,

From my Cock-loft in the
Presse yard of Newgate this 23.
of Iune 1646.

Sir, I am Your true and faire conditioned prisoner
if you will be so to me,

JOHN LILBURNE

The Copy of the Order.

Die Luræ 22. Junij 1646.

Ordered by the Lords in Parliament Assembled, that Liev. Col. John Lilburne now a prisoner in Newgate, shall be brought before Their Lordships in the [High Court of PARLIAMENT] to morrow morning by ten of the clock: And this to be a sufficient warrant in that behalfe.

To the Gen. Vsher of this House, or his Deputy
to be delivered to the Keeper of Newgate or
his Deputy.

John Browne Cler.
Parliamentorum.

