



# BY THE KING.

His Majesties Proclamation, forbidding the Tending or Taking of the late Vow or Covenant, devised by some Members of both Houses, to engage His Majesties good Subjects in the Maintenance of this odious Rebellion.

**W**HEREAS We have lately seen a Vow or Covenant pretended to be taken by some Members of both Houses of Parliament, whereby after the taking notice of a Popish and Traiterous Plot for the subversion of the true Reformed Protestant Religion, and the Liberty of the Subject, and to surprize the Cities of London and Westminster, They do promise and covenant according to their utmost power; to assist the Forces pretended to be raised and continued by both Houses of Parliament, against the Forces raised by Us, and to assist all other Persons that shall take the said Oath, in what they shall do in pursuance thereof; which Oath as the same hath been taken without the least colour or ground, the Contrivers thereof well knowing that there is no Popish Army within this Kingdome; that We are so far from giving countenance to that Religion, that We have alwayes given, and alwayes offered Our consent to any Act for the suppression of Popery, and the growth thereof; and that the Army raised by Us is in truth for the necessary defence of the true Reformed Protestant Religion established by Law, the Liberty and Property of the Subject, and Our own Just Rights according to Law; all which being settled and submitted to, or such a free and peaceable Convention in Parliament being provided for, that the same might be settled, We have offered and are still ready to Disband our Armies; and as the said Oath was devised only to prevent Peace, and to engage the Votes of the Members of both Houses (directly contrary to the Freedom and Liberty of Parliament) and to engage them and Our good Subjects in the maintenance of this horrid and odious Rebellion; so it is directly contrary, as well to their natural Duty, as to the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy established by Law, which obliges them to bear to Us Truth and Faith of Life, Members and Earthly Honour, and to defend Us to the utmost of their powers against all Conspiracies and Attempts whatsoever, which shall be made against Our Person, Our Crown and Dignity, and to do their best endeavours to disclose and make known to Us all Treasons and Traiterous Conspiracies which shall be against Us, and to their power to assist and defend all Jurisdictions, Priviledges, Prebeminences, and Authorities belonging to Us, or annexed to the Imperial Crown of this Realm. And whereas We are informed, that some desperate seditious Persons, do endeavour to perswade and seduce others of Our good Subjects to take the said Oath, thereby to engage them and this Kingdome into a continuance of these miserable and bloody distempers, We do therefore out of Grace & Compassion to Our People, and that they may not by any craft or violence suffer themselves to be seduced against their Duty and Conscience, warn them of their natural Allegiance, and their Obligations by Oaths lawfully administered to them, and wish them to remember the great Blessings of God in peace and plenty, which the whole Kingdome hath received, whilst that Duty and those Oaths were carefully observed; and the unspeakable miseries & Calamities they have suffered in the breaking and violation thereof. And We do straitly Charge & Command Our loving Subjects of what degree & quality soever, upon their Allegiance, that they presume not to take the said seditious & Traiterous Vow or Covenant, which endeavours to withdraw them from their natural Allegiance which they owe unto Us, & to which they are or ought to be sworn, & are bound by the known Laws of the Land, albeit they are not sworn, & engages them in Acts of High Treason by the express letter of the Statute of the 25<sup>th</sup> Year of King Edward the third. And We do likewise hereby forbid & inhibit all Our Subjects to impose, administer, or tender the said Oath or Covenant: And if notwithstanding this Our Gracious Proclamation any Person shall presume to impose, tender, or take the said Vow or Covenant, We shall proceed against him or them with all severity according to the known Laws of the Land. Given at Our Court at Oxford, the One and Twentieth day of June, in the Nineteenth Year of Our Reign.

G O D S A V E T H E K I N G .

L O N D O N , Printed for Will. Sheares, who suffered Imprisonment for refusing to take the Covenant, 1660.

NB reprint of Ch I. 19<sup>th</sup> year  
to Broadside Coll  
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