

THE
ADDRESS

OF

The Freeholders

OF

The County of Middlesex.

Made and Delivered in Writing the Third day of this instant *March*, 1680. at *Hamstead-Heath*, unto Sir *William Roberts* Knight and Baronet, and *William*^{Nicholas} *Ranton* Esq; after they were declared to be Elected Knights to Represent the said County of *Middlesex* in the next Parliament to be holden at *Oxford* the One and twentieth of this Instant.

Gentlemen,

WE the Freeholders of this County, have (in great Confidence of Your Integrity, Wisdom and Courage,) now chosen You, to Represent Us in the next Parliament, to be holden at *Oxford*, on the 21st. day of this present *March*. And although we do not in the least question Your Faithfulness, to the True interest of this Nation; nor Your Prudence in the Management thereof. Yet esteeming it greatly our Duty, in this unhappy juncture, wherein our Religion, Lives, Liberties, Properties, and all that is dear unto us, are in such Eminent danger, to signify our pressing Dangers unto You. And accordingly we do request, That in the next Parliament, wherein we have Chosen You to Sit, and Act, That You will with the greatest Integritie, and most undaunted Resolution, Joyn with, and Assist the other Worthy Representatives, and Patriots of this Nation, in the searching into, and preventing the Horrid and Hellish Villanies, Plots and Designs, of that wicked, and restless sort of People, the Papiſts, both in this, and the Neighbouring Kingdoms. And making some Honourable Provision for the Discoverers thereof;

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In securing to Us, the Enjoyment of the True *Protestant Religion*, and the well Eftablished Government of this Kingdom,

In Promoting the happy, and long Prayed-for Union, among all His Majesties *Protestant Subjects*.

In Repealing the 35th. of *Elizabeth*, The *Corporation Act*, and all other Acts, which upon Experience have proved Injurious to the True *Protestant* Interest.

In Asserting the Peoples unquestionable Rights of Petitioning.

In removing our just Fears, by Reason of the great Forces in this Kingdom, under the Name of Guards, which the Law hath no knowledg of.

In preventing the Misery, Ruine, and utter Destruction, which unavoidably must come upon This, and the Neighbouring Nations, if *James Duke of York*, or any other *Papist*, shall Ascend the Royal Throne of this Kingdom.

And lastly, in securing to us, our Legal Right of Annual Parliaments; which (under God) will unquestionably, prove the Highest security of all that is good, and desirable to us, and our Posterity after us.

Always assuring our Selves, that You will not in any Wise, consent unto any Money-Supply, until we are Effectually secured against Popery, and Arbitrary Power.

And Particularly, we desire You, to give the most hearty Thanks of this County, to that Noble Peer, *the Earl of Essex*, and by Him to the rest of those Noble and Renowned Peers, who were pleased lately and so seasonably, to offer their Petition, and Advice to his Majesty.

In the Pursuance of all which Needful, Worthy, and Excellent Ends, we shall, as in duty bound, stand by You, with our Lives and Fortunes.

This Address was very gratefully Accepted, by both the Elected Members. And their Answer returned to the great Content of the Freeholders.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *Francis Smith*, at the *Elephant and Castle* in *Cornhill*, near the *Royall Exchange*. 1680.