

A True Account

OF THE

Election at Cambridge

March the Third, 1680.

THough some Persons have of late obtruded several Relations of *Elections* upon the Nation, which were only the Fictions of their own Imagination; and, not contented with laying their Scene so remote, that they were assured no Person would take the pains to prove them Lyars. *Elephant Smith* has had the impudence, so natural to him, to venture at a Forgery under the very Nose of the City, without the least colour of truth, in the late pretended *Address* at the Election at *Hampstead Heath*; yet, I hope, it will be no prejudice to the truth of the following Relation, which, if occasion be, will be supported by the Testimony of so many Worthy and Loyal Gentlemen, and others that were present at it.

Upon *Thursday* the Third of this Instant *March*, the Gentlemen and Free-holders of the County of *Cambridge* and the Isle of *Ely*, proceeded upon his Majesties Writ, to the Election of Knights to serve for the County in the ensuing Parliament at *Oxford*; the Candidates were *Sir Levinus Bennet* Baronet, *Sir Robert Cotton* Knight, *Edward Pathorick*, and *Gerrard Russel* Esquires; the two last having been Members in the Commons House in the Parliament of 1679. and the two first, of the late Parliament; wherein they acquitted themselves with that Loyalty, Prudence, and Moderation, as became worthy Patriots, to the general satisfaction of the People; whom they represented.

A Poll being demanded and granted, all things were carried with a great evenness and calmness, till towards the conclusion, when some of the *Dissenting Protestants*, doubting the Event, began to bustle, purposely to gain some foundation for a future Petition; and one of his Majesties Justices of the Peace, for taking notice of their Insolence, had like to have fallen under the judicature of their Club-Law: but he seasonably demanding, Whether the *Fanaticks* had a mind to out-do the *Papists*, by murdering a Justice of Peace in the Execution of his Office in the very face of the Countrey? the fear of *Infamy* proved a more restraining-Grace to the Consciences of their Clubs, than the Club-Principles of their Consciences. But the Affront was so resented by the Generality of the Freeholders, that, after the shutting up the Poll, *Sir R. Cotton* was obliged to

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afford the Civility of attending one of the Gentlemen, who lost the Election, to his Coach, to avoid his being further affronted than by hissing and hooting, which it was impossible to prevent.

Upon the casting up the Books, it was found, that-

Sir Robert Cotton had Voices	1400.
Sir Levinus Bennet	1375.
Mr. Patherich	1068.
Mr. Ruffel	1008.

The Election being proclaimed, the Knights, Gentlemen, and most Substantial Free-holders, did, in their own, and the name of the Body of the Free-holders of the County and Isle aforesaid, present this following Address to their Worthy Representatives.

To Sir Levinus Bennet Baronet, and Sir Robert Cotton Knight, Knights chosen for the County of Cambridge, and Isle of Ely, to be their Representatives in Parliament, summoned by his Majesty to sit at Oxon, the One and twentieth of March 1680.

The Desire and Request of the Free-holders of the said County of Cambridge, and Isle of Ely.

BEing sensible of the great Obligation you have laid upon your Countrey, by your Loyal and prudent Conduct, during the late Session of Parliament, we knew not how to give a better Demonstration of our Gratitude for the same, than by this our second Election of you to attend the same Service.

And to make good the Confidence we repose in you, we doubt not but you will represent, as well our Duty and Affections to his Most Sacred Majesty, as our Persons, in any other concern whatever.

And, Seeing our Lives and Liberties, Religion, and indeed, our *ALL*, as to this World, under God, depends upon his Majesty, we cannot but make it our earnest Request to you, that you will shew all imaginable Regard and Tenderness to his Person; that you timely provide for his Just satisfaction and Contentment, and take care to secure his Honour and Grandeur; wherein the Interest and Safety, as well as the Glory and Reputation of our Nation is so intirely summ'd up.

We therefore do most earnestly desire you, to use your utmost endeavour to preserve the Government of Church and State, as now by Law established; and in order to that, to suppress all Seditious and Scandalous Practises, wherewith many disaffected Persons have most insolently and insufferably libell'd and defam'd it.

There are other things which every dayes Occurrences will suggest to you, but the Enforcements of the Laws already established, will supersede all farther Address upon that account, which we do therefore most heartily recommend to your Care and Prudence.