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The Right Hon:^{ble} the COMMONS of *England*
Assembled in PARLIAMENT,

The humble Petition of the auncient Hackney-Coachmen of
LONDON and WESMINSTER.

H E W E T H :

 That whereas many inconveniencies have lately arisen by the increase of *Hackney-Coaches*, kept and used within the aforesaid Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, which said increase and the inconveniencies thereby happening, have been occasioned partly by the number of *Coaches* which have been kept by some wealthy *Coachmen*, of which some have kept 12. some 10. *Hackney-Coaches*, and some 30. *Coach-Horses* a piece, and chiefly by Tradesmen; as *Inne-keepers*, *Coach-Makers*, and *Carre-men*, and other Persons who have not been brought up in the Calling of *Coachmen*, yet for profit and Lucre have kept severall *Hackney-Coaches*, and imployed Boyes and unexperienced Persons to ply and drive the same: Whereof the Number imployed hath been above 1000. at one and same time.

AND whereas the King's Majesty upon Complaint made of the said inconveniencies, hath been pleased by his Proclamation to restrain your Petitioners from plying abroad in the streets unto their respective Stables, whereby the said *Inne-Keepers* and others (who have not been brought up in the Calling, yet keeping *Coaches* in the midst and chiefe Innes of the City of *London*) are only imployed, and your Petitioners who are many of them very indigent, and have great Families and many Children, and have been alwayes brought up in the Calling (having their Stables in the remotest part of the City for avoiding of Annoyance) have no imployment, to the Ruine of themselves, their Families and Children, who must fall upon the Charge and Charity of their respective Parishes, having no other Calling whereby to live; And likewise to the inconveniencies of all people, who can have no *Coaches* ready for Use upon the greatest Occasions and Necessities.

And forasmuch as the said Inconveniencies may be better prevented, by restraining the number of *Hackney-Coaches* to about 400. And by incorporating a certaine number of the chiefe and most experienced *Coachmen*, who have no other Calling, with power to make By Lawes and Rules directing the Usage of the said 400. *Coaches*, and for Regulating the Abuses committed by *Hackney-Coaches*, in manner as by a Bill prepared for that purpose, and hereunto annexed is set forth.

May it therefore please your Honours to take the Premises, and the matters in the said Bill contained to your Grave and serious Considerations, that the same may be Enacted or some other meanes may be found out for the reliefe of your Petitioners and the Publique good:

And your Petitioners shall pray, &c.

