

A COPY of my Lord Bolingbroke's
LETTER to my Lord —

My Lord,

I Left the Town so abruptly, that I had no Time to take leave of you, or any of my Friends: You will excuse me when you know, that I had certain and repeated Informations from Some, who are in the Secret of Affairs that a Resolution was taken by those who have Power to Execute it; to pursue me to the Scaffold.

My Blood was to be the Cement of New Alliances, nor could my Innocence be any Security, after it had been once demanded from Abroad, and resolv'd at Home; that it was necessary to cut me off

Had there been the least reason to hope a fair and open Tryal, after having been already pre judg'd, unheard by the Two Houses of Parliament, I shou'd not have declin'd the strictest Examination

I challenge the most inveterate of my enemies to produce any one Instance of a criminal Correspondence, or of the least Corruption in any part of the Administration in which I was concern'd. If my Zeal for the Honour and Dignity of my Royal Mistress, and the true Interest of my Country, has any where transported me to let slip a warm or unguarded Expression, I hope the most favourable Interpretation will be put upon it.

It is a Comfort that will remain to me under all Misfortunes, that I serv'd her Majesty Dutifully and Faithfully, in That especially which She had most at Heart, delivering her People from a bloody and expensive War; and that I have always been too much an *Englishman* to sacrifice the Interest of my Country to any Foreign Ally whatsoever; and 'tis for this Crime only that I am driven from thence.

Dover, March 27. 1715.

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