

*A Speech lately made by a Noble Peer of the Realm.*

**I**N this great Debate concerning the King's Speech, the *Sad State* and *Condition* we are in, and the *Remedies* thereof; I have offered you my Opinion, and many Lords have spoken admirably well to it, with great Freedom and Plainness, as the Case requires. Give me leave to offer you some few Words, in Answer to two or three of my Lords of the Earls Bench, that have maintained the contrary opinion.

My Lord, near me, hath told your Lordships, that the President of *Hen. 4.* that I offered to you (who was a Wise and Magnanimous Prince; and yet upon the Adress of his Parliament *put away a great part of his Family and Councils at one time*) is no proper Instance, because he was an Usurper, and had an ill Title, and was bound to please the People: My Lords, I meddle not with his title I am sure our King hath a very undoubted one; But this, My Lord, I must allow, that the wise Prince having *Need of the People*, knew no better way to please them, and to create a good Intelligence between them and him, than to put away those from Court and Council that were unacceptable to them. If our King hath the same necessity to please the People (tho' for other Reasons then want of a Title;) yet I am sure the president holds, that a Wise Prince, when he hath need of his People, will rather *Part with his Family and Counsellors, than displease them*. My Lords, this Noble Lord near me, hath found fault with that President, that he supposes I offered your Lordships concerning the chargable Ladies at Court; But I remember no such thing I said; But if I must speak of them, I shall say as the Prophet did to King *Saul*, *What means the bleating of this kind of Cattel?* And I hope the King will make me the same Answer, *That he reserves them for Sacrifice, and means to deliver them up to please his People*. For there must be, in plain English, my Lords, a *Change*; We must neither have *Popish Wife*, nor *Popish Favourite*, nor *Popish Mistreis*, nor *Popish Councillour* at Court, or any new Convert. What I spoke was about another Lady that belongs not to the Court, but like *Symphronia* in *Catalines* Conspiracy, does more Mischiefe than *Cethegus*. In this time of distress, I could humbly advise our Prince would take the same course the Duke of *Savoy* did; to suffer neither Strangers nor Embassadors to stay above some few weeks in his Country; for all the strangers and Ambassadors here, have served the *P L O T*, and Design against us; I am sure they have no tye to be for us. But, my Lords, what I rose up to Speak, was more especially to my Lord of the Earls Bench, that spoke last, and sits behind me; Who, as he hath the greatest Influence in our present Councils; so he hath let fall to you the very Root of the matter, and the Hinges upon which all turns; He tells you that the House of Commons have lately made offers to the King, and he wonders we do not expect the Kings Answer to them, before we enter into so hot and high Debats.

He tells you, if the King be assured of Supplies we cannot doubt of his Compliance in this, and all we can ask, for otherwise the King should fall into that that is the worst condition of a Prince; to have his People have no confidence in him; My Lords, This is that I know they put the King upon, and this is that *we must be ruined by*, if we may not with *Freedom and Plainness* open our Case. My Lords, 'Tis a very hard thing to say *that we cannot trust the King*; and that we have already been deceived so often, that we see plainly the apprehensions of *Discontent* in the People, is no argument at Court. And though our Prince be in himself an Excellent Person, that the People have the greatest Inclination imaginable to love; yet we must say he is such an one, *as no Story affords us a Parallel of*: How plain and how many are the proofs of the *Design to Murder Him? How little is He apprehensive of it?* The Transactions between him and his Brother are Admirable, and Incomprehensible; His Brothers designs being early known, to aim at the Crown, before His Majesties *Restoration* to this Kingdom. This Match with a *Portugal Lady*, not like to have Children, *Contrived by the Dukes Father-in-Law*; and no sooner effected, but the Duke and his party, make Proclamation to the World, that we are like to have no Children, that He must be the certain Heir. He takes his Seat in Parliament, as a Prince of *Wales*, His Guards about him; The Princes Lodging at *White-Hall*, his Guards upon the same Floor, without any Interposition, between him and the King; So that the King was in his Hands,

