THE TRVE CO-PIE OF A LETTER FROM THE QVEENES MAIESTIE, TO THE Lord Maior of London, and his brethren: conteyning a most gracious acceptation of the great ioy which her Subiectes tooke vpon the apprehension of diuers perfons, detected of a most wicked conspiracie, read openly in a great assemblie of the Commons in the Guildhall of that Citie, the 22. day of August. 1586. Before the reading whereof, maister Iames Dalton, one of the Counsellours of that Citie, in the absence of the Recorder, made this speach hereafter following.



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1586



BY IHE SEENE.

To our right truftie and welbe loued, the Lord Maior of our Citie of London, and his brethren the Aldermen of the fame.



Ight trustie and welbeloued, wee greete you well. Being giuen to vnderstand how greatly our good and most louing Subiests of that Citie didreioyce at the apprehession of certaine deuilish and wicked minded subiests of ours, that through the great and singular goodnes of God

haue bene detected, to haue most wickedly and unnaturally conspired, not onely the taking away of our owne life, butalfo to have stirred up (as much as in them lay) a generall rebellion throughout our whole Realme: we coulde not but by our owne letters witnesse wnto you the great and singular contentment we received vpon the knowledge thereof, aßuring you, that we did not so much reioyce at the escape of the intended attempt against our owne per son, as to see the great ioy our most louing Subjects tooke at the apprehension of the contriuers thereof, which, to make their loue more apparant, they have (as we are to our great comfort informed) omitted no outwarde shewe, that by any externallacte might witnesse to the world the inwarde loue and duetifull affection they beare toward vs. And as we have as great cause with all thankfulnesse to acknowledge Gods great goodnesse toward vs , through the infinite blessings he layeth upon us, as many as ever Prince had, yea rather, as ever Creature had : yet doe we not for any worldly blef fing received from his divine Maiestie, fo greatly acknow-<u>А.</u>ÿ. ledge

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ledge the fame, as in that it hath pleased him to incline the heartes of our Subiccts cuen from the first beginning of our reigne, to carrie as great love towards us, as ever Subjects caried toward Prince, which ought to moue vs (as it doeth in very deede) to feeke with all care, and by all good meanes that appertaine to a Christian Prince, the conferuation of fo louing and duetifully affected Subiccts: a Suring you that we defire no longer to live, then while we may in the whole course of our gouernement carrie our selfe in such sort, as may not onely nourish and continue their love and good will towards vs, but also encrease the same. Wee thinke meete, that these our letters should be communicated in some generall assemblie to our most louing Subjects the Commoners of that Citie. Yeuen under our Signet at our Castell of Windfor, the 18. day of August 1's 8 6. in the 28. yeere of our reigne.



Ight worshipful, my good countreymen & Citizens of this most noble Citie of Londo. Since the late bruite and report of a moft wicked and traiterous conspiracie, not onely to take Tel away the life of our most gratious Soueraigne, (whom God graunt long to live & reigne ouer vs) but alfo to ftirre vp a general rebellion throughout the whole Realme: the great and vniuerfall ioy of you all of this Citie, vpon the apprehension of diuers of that most wicked conspiracie alate declared and teftified, by many outward acts & shewes, hath wrought in the Queenes most excellent Maiestie fuch a gratious contentmet, that it hath moued her Highnes, by her letters figned with her owne hand, to fignifie vnto my L. Maior of this Citie and his brethren, her moft Noble & Princely acceptation thereof, and that in fuch fort, as thereby may appeare, that her Highnes hath not more, no not fo much reioyced at the most happie escape of the wicked mischiefe intended against her owne perfon, as at the ioye which her louing Subjectes, and namely you of this Citie of London tooke at the apprehension of the practifers of that intended Treafor.

By occafion whereof, her Highnes brought to a thankefull Remembrance, and acknowledging of Gods infinite ble flings beftowed on hir, comparable with any Prince or creature in the worlde, no worldly thing more or like accompteth of, then of the heartie loue of her louing & faithful fubiects A. iij, many many wayes and many times before now, but especially by this our great ioye in this fort, at this time, and vpon this occasion shewed.

And that her exceeding great loue and acceptation of our Reioycing may the more appeare vnto you, it hath pleafed her Highnes in the fame letters to declare, that the defireth not longer to lyue among vs, then the thal maintayne, continue, nourith and increase the loue and good will of her Subiects toward her. And this her Highnes hath willed to be made knowen vnto you all, with this, that thee will not faile with all care, and by all good meanes that appertaine to a Christian prince, to feeke the coferuation of you all fo louing and duetifully affected Subiects.

This her Maiefties pleasure in part now declared, and more to be made knowen to you by her owne letters, which you shall heare readde, my Lord Maior and his brethren haue required mee to declare vnro you all, that they doe heartily reioyce and thanke God for the happie day of the good acceptation of this your greatioy, and my L.himfelfe hath willed me to give you all hearty thankes in his name, for that in the time of his feruice your duetifull behauiours haue gotten to the Citie fo Noble and worthie a Testimonie of duetie and loyaltie, of so Noble and worthie a Queene.

Now forafinuch as Gods bleffings wonderfully abound, and one ioye comes vpon another, let vs not be vnthankefull to God, but acknowledge his goodneffe, and attribute the fame (as in deede we ought) to the fincere Religion of Aimightie God, most godly established by the Queenes most excellent excellent Maiestie, which hath taught vs to knowe God aright, our duetie to our Soueraigne, and to loue our countrey, and hath made vs duetifull and obedient Subjects, rejoycing at all good things happening to her Maiestie, her Realme, or to any in her Noble seruice, the true effectes of a true and good Religion: Whereas the contemners thereof, and immoderate affectors of the Romifh religion and fuperstitions, being voyde of the true knowledge of God, haue declyned from God, their allegiance to their Prince, their loue to their Countrie, and haue becomme Inuenters of mischiefes, bruters and spreaders abroade of false and seditious rumors, such as ioye at no good thing, but contrariwife reioyce at every euill fucceffe, the badges and markes of their profession on, who have before this, in this Realme and in other her Highnes dominions, stirred vp rebellion, forraine inuation, and many times practifed the very death and destruction of the Queene her felfe, the Ruyne and fubuerfion of the whole Realme, the proper effects of their Romifh religion.

We have beheld all these things, and seene in our dayes the Ruyne and mischiefes invented against others, fall vpon the Inventers themselues: and have knowen the wicked and violent hands of divers of them, deuilishly to kill and murther themselves, when most trayterously they woulde, and most happilie they could not, sea the Lordes annoynted.

As we have knowen all these things, so God be thanked, that by a better Religion, having bene better better taught, we have bene no partakers of their wicked deuifes, but have put to our helping hands as occafion hath ferued, and everready to overthrowe the auctors and deuifers thereof.

And I haue no doubt, but we of this Noble Citie, who hitherto haue bene alwayes readie duetifully and faithfully to ferue her Maiestie vpon all occafions, (her Highnes now fo gracioufly accepting onely of our reioycing at the apprehension of her enemies, eue the least part of the duty of a good Subject to fo good a Queene) will be readie every one with all that we can make, and with the vttermost aduenture of all our liues, speedily to be reuenged vpon all fuch as shall villainously and traiteroufly attempt or put in vre any mifchiefe to her Noble person, and in the meane time will haue a better eye & eare to all suspitious & miscontented perfons, to their fayings and doings, to their falfe bruites and reports, to the places and corners of their haunt and refort, to their harborers, companions, ayders and mainteiners.

God vphold and continue his Religion among vs, and increase our zeale therein, which hath made vs so louing and loyall, and so beloued and acceptable Subjectes to so worthy a Prince, and roote out that wicked and Romith religion, that hath made so many difloyall and traiterous Subiectes: to whom is both odious and irkesome, the long life & prosperous Reigne of our most noble Queene Elizabeth. God confounde all such traytors, and preferue her Highnesse long to line and reigne ouer vs.