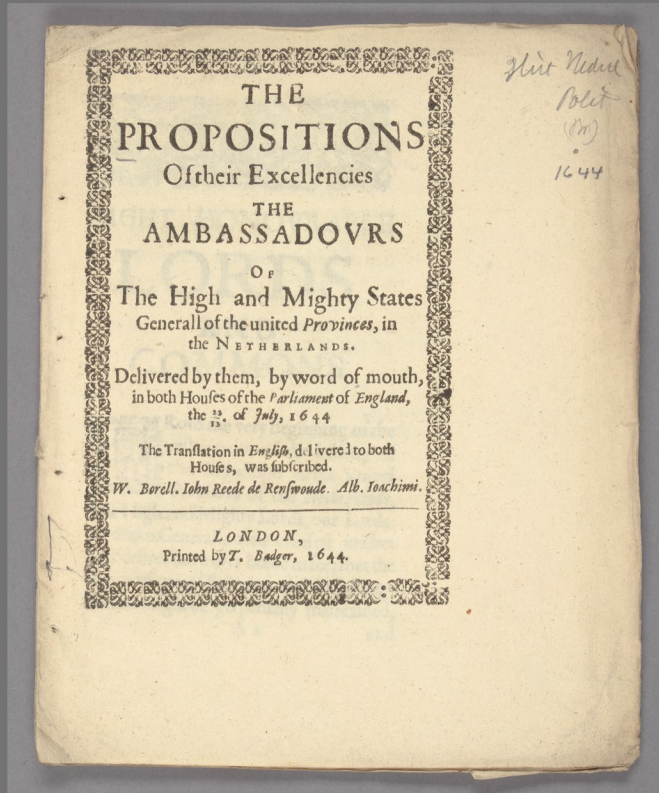


The propositions of ... the ambassadors of the ...



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THE
PROPOSITIONS

Of their Excellencies

THE
AMBASSADOURS

OF

The High and Mighty States
Generall of the united *Provinces*, in
the NETHERLANDS.

Delivered by them, by word of mouth,
in both Houses of the *Parliament* of *England*,
the $\frac{23}{13}$. of *July*, 1644

The Translation in *English*, delivered to both
Houses, was subscribed.

W. Borell. Iohn Reede de Renswoude. Alb. Ioachimi.

LONDON,
Printed by T. Badger, 1644.

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1644

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General of the United Provinces, in
the Netherlands.

Delivered by them, by word of mouth,
in both Houses of the Parliament of England,
the 22nd of July, 1644.

The Translation in the said word of mouth
Houses, was finished
By W. Jon. de Ruyter, and his Associates.

LONDON,
Printed by J. Baskett, 1644.

(1)



RIGHT HONOURABLE
LORDS,
 AND
COMMONS.

From the very beginning of the
 restauration of the Liberty of
 the *Republique* of the United
Provinces of the *Netherlands*,
 The High and Mighty Lords, our Lords,
 the *States* Generall, their chiefeſt wiſhes
 and deſires have ever beene to ſee, that the
 Kings of great *Brittaine*, and theſe King-
 domes might be perpetually maintained,

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and

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and preserved in a good concord, Peace and Vnion, by which nothing could befall them but all safety, and advantage, and that for three principall reasons.

First, that these Kingdomes, being the greatest & the strongest Body, which having received and maintained the Profession of the true Christian Protestant Religion, and conseruing it selfe so well, it might also contribute much, yea by Fame and reputation it selfe, to the conseruation of States, Confederates and Friends, and of all the other Protestant Churches, established and spread thorough whole Europe.

Secondly, that these Kingdomes, by their situation, commodities, traffique, and Navigation, and their *Republique*, being so nearely combined by their common Interest of State, and Religion, our Lords might rest assured, that the Interest of the King, and these Kingdomes, being so mightily advanced, and conserued by the same meanes, those of the *Netherlandts* could

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could not be but well conserved.

And thirdly, that this intestine Peace, Union and Concord, (which Prosperity and Weale ordinarily accompanieth) continuing here, that not onely the Kings and Kingdomes should be able to maintaine, and preserve themselves ; but that the *States* Confederate, and Friends ; or the good Cause of the Protestant Religion, in other parts unjustly suffering; (as formerly it hath beene, and yet this day is too much perceiv'd) they might ever find their refuge & azile, their Succours & their ayd against all those, who on the contrary part of other States and Churches, should undertake to undermine the true Foundation of the happinesse of these flourishing Kingdomes.

For your situation being well considered, you are in your selves as a World a parr, separated from many inconveniences of the other.

You have your Commodities at home, not onely which are necessary, and for

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your pleasure and delight, but also in such plenty that you are able to communicate them to other Nations your Neighbours.

The Sea doth serve you for a ditch and Bulwarke, and your Power by Sea is able to maintaine you in your felicity, and to exempt and free you from all forraigne injuries.

So that the good of your owne conservation, and the cause of your evill and ruine, could not be suscitated, nor found elsewhere but at home, and within your selves.

And certainly the Kings and Queenes formerly have done notable assistances for the maintenance and conservation of the true Religion, and of many States which had need thereof, amongst which Our LORDS doe professe themselves as much obliged and bound, as any other.

And the King and these Kingdomes shall yet in time be able to doe the like assistance, as well for the present, (now there is so great a necessity) as for the future,

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ture, provided you conserve your selves in that Concord and Vnion, which heretofore hath made, and shall ever make you mighty and redoubted.

From hence it is, that the common Enemies of the Peace of Christendome, and their Agents, who (long since) have framed and forged the Designe of an universall Monarchy of whole *Europe*, yea of the whole World, seeing and perceiving with an envious and malicious eye your former happinesse, your flourishing State, and your power, and that there was nothing so contrary and dreadfull to their vast conceprions, as your oppositions.

To hurt and weaken, yea to ruine you, if they had beene able, they have heretofore used all violence, and the strength of great Fleets and Armies, but in vaine and without successe.

They have at last not beene able to act a better play, then that which is most familiar to them, and which often hath
helped

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helpt them, to the ruine of many great States, which have not bin so circumspect and prudent as you are.

Right Honourable,

It is so, that quitting violence in a profound peace, which they have with you, and during the time of the same, they have sown amongst you the seedes and weedes of Discord and dissention, as well in politike as Church businesses, and shall ever foment them: whence they could assure themselves of a certaine profit, what end soever the said dissentions might take.

And by these means and their accustomed craft, they have proposed to obtain by intestine troubles, you should weaken your selves, and making you lesse mighty, and lesse dreadfull, and no wayes considerable, you might serve at last, (which God avert) to the inglutting of their insatiable ambition, to the destruction of the true Religion, and of all that which may be deare

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deare and recommendable to you.

As VVe see already brought to passe in Ireland where the cruelties, murthers, horrible and unheard of slaughtets have been perpetrated, with effusion of so much innocent bloud, to the totall destruction of the true Protestant religion there, and to the great danger of the State it selfe.

Our Lords seeing these mis-understandings, troubles, and miseries here already growne to so great an extreimity: and being so highly interessed in your well being, have esteemed fit and timely to send Vs their Ambassadors to this Kingdome, to offer to the King and to his Parliament Our Service and mediation.

To help (if acceptable) to remove and take away the jealousies which are and might be, and to compose the dissensions by the milde wayes for an amiable Conference.

And our said Lords declare, that they

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have not been moved hereunto by any presumption, or to intrude themselves in the busines of a great King, and of these mighty Kingdomes: But onely to acquit themselves of the Office and Duty of a good friend, and also to acknowledge in this occasion the great obligation which the King, and these Kingdomes have upon our Republique.

Our Lords further doe perswade themselves that no other State in the world, but theirs shall be found more fit and acceptable, (in their opinion) to interpose it selfe in the mediation of an accommodation, and re-union between his Majesty and his Parliament, and to whose interposition more credit might bee given without all susption: For the honour, greatnesse and prosperity of the King and these Kingdomes, is by reflection the same for our Republique; and on the contrary your evill is to Vs a very great affliction, and a most sensible evill.

From thence may be taken this firm assurance,

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surance, that the ayme of our mediation shall not be to recommend an accommodation, and reconciliation feigned and painted without, not prejudiciall, and not assured within. But to procure a true reunion, sincere and perfect, founded upon the Basis of the true Religion and Iustice, which shall re-establish respectively the good correspondence, confidence, love, and the respects between the King and his Parliament, and between all the good subjectsof these great Kingdomes.

The King hath so much approved of the reasons and proffers of our said Lords, that his Majesty hath accepted on his part Our Interposition, and hath consented to a Conference between Commissioners to be sent from both parties, (if you find it good) and that you shall chuse the place, the time, and the number of the persons who shall be employed in this action.

Right Honourables

Now Wee come unto you by com-

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mand of Our Superiours to make the same proffer of mediation, and to understand whether also twelve may be agreeable and acceptable unto you.

¶ We have alwayes observed that your good inclinations have been carryed to peace, if you receive satisfaction to your just and reasonable demands.

Your wisdomes also may well judge, that the wayes of Armes are not alwayes the surest, their successes being very uncertaine, and which changeth face in a moment.

The good Cause which is proposed, doth not alwayes promise an assured and certain successe, for we are all men, and God sometimes permits the good Cause to suffer for our sins.

All warre is an affliction and punishment of God, in which we are not to take delight, when we can be freed of it, upon honest and sure termes and conditions, that the wrath of God be not longer provoked against us.

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It is to be considered also, if no reasonable accommodation be found that the decision of your differences by Armes is not to be expected to soon; but rather on the contrary, that it shall bee the cause of perpetuating the warres in these Kingdomes, because the King shall ever live in his Royall Posterity, and the Parliament never dyes to suscite always the former evill successes by new warres, which at length shall cause the totall ruine and destruction of State and Religion, onely to the great advantage of the common enemy of our Faith.

Right Honourable,

If it please you to make use of our intercession, unto which the King consented at our first Proposition and offer, VVe promise you to proceed and labour in it with all sincerity and fidelity, as Ambassadors sent by your best friends and allies, making profession of one and the same Religion.

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And

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And we shall spare no endeavour, tra-
vaile, nor paine (by the good will which
his Majesty hath declared to us, and by
your good intention) to make the af-
fections of our Lords succeed to such
perfection, that the King and his Parlia-
ment, and all good and loyall Subjects of
the King, and lovers of their Country,
shall finde their desired contentment and
tranquility with all assurance.

Right Honourable,

We must yet adde these few words,
that your troubles and warres, trouble
and indanger us also: for many Mer-
chants and Masters of Ships dayly present
themselves to Our Lords the States Gene-
nerall, and to us here, with their com-
plaints, that your men and ships of war
trouble their course of trading and traf-
fique, and take their ships and goods
without any just cause, and without rea-
son, and any right at all, as may be seen
by a *Memorandum* hereunto annexed,
which

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which you are desired to take notice of,
and to give order for restitution and re-
paration of the dammages sustained for
the present, and to take such course that
in the future the like excesses may be pre-
vented.

And if any doubts be found in the
said *Memorandum*, that it may please you
to appoynt us some Commissioners to
settle the poynts of which wee are com-
plaining, as shall be found to agree with
reason.

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(13)

which you are desired to take notice of
and to give order for restitution and re-
paration of the damages sustained for
the present and to take such course that
in the future the like excesses may be pre-
vented.
And if any doubt be found in the
said Memorandum that it may please you
to appoint us some Commissioners to
settle the points which were afore con-
sidered, as shall be found to agree with
reason.

FINIS.

