A DECLARATION AND WARNING
Unto all the Members of this KIRK AND KINGDOME,
In answer to a Paper intituled and reputed the Declaration of James Grahame.
By the Commission of the Generall Assembly of the Kirk of SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH,
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The Declaration and Warning of the Commission of the General Assembly unto all the members of this Kirk and Kingdom, in answer to a paper intituled and reputed The Declaration of James Graham.

Lbeit the carriage of those who are engaged in the work of Reformation in this Land hath been from the beginning to agreeable to the rule of the Word of God and of sound reason, and to eminently owned and blessed by the Lord in all the tenour and procedur thereof, as may sufficiently refute all the calumnies of enemies, and strengthen his people against all their flanders and attempts for undoing of the same; Yet least our silence in this day of blasphemy and rebuke should be construed either as a neglect of our duty, or as weakness through the sense of the guilt, to wipe off the aspersions that are vented to the world in the name of that excommunicate & forfeited traitor James Graham, we have resolved till there may be opportunity for a larger Declaration, shortly to touch the revellings contained in that paper, and to declare unto men their duty in reference to such purposes and desires as are holden forth therein.

In the first place the instruments of the worke of Reformation are charged as an horrid and infamous faction of rebells, who did hatch a rebellion against his late Majesty: But to lay nothing that that wretched man was accessorie unto the laying of the foundation of that blessed work, which now in the blindness of his minde and hardness of his heart, as being given up of God, as Pharaoh was, he calleth rebellion. This is no other then the common calumnie that hath been cast upon the servants of God from the beginning of the world in all their indeavours and attempts for reformation of religion: Was it rebellion to stand to our defence, when in stead of an answer to all the earnest and reiterated supplications and desires of this land against the corruptions of doctrine, worship, discipline and government
Next it is charged upon this Nation that they did solicit a partie in the Kingdom of England to beginne where they had left off, and that finding their rebell brood there beginning to lessen, they did, contrary to all Faith, Covenants, Oathes, &c. enter with a strong army the Kingdom of England, persecute their Prince in a forreigne Nation, and assist a company of strangers rebells against their native King, &c. What was the grounds and first rife of the war betwixt the King and the Parliament of England, needs not now to be repeated, being so well known every where. But this Nation were so far fromomenting of the same, that for a long time they did mediate a peace; and so continued, untill England by their earnest invitation, did for the preservation and reformation of Religion, the honour and happiness of the King, the peace and good of these Kingdoms, crave their assistance against the Popish, Prelaticall and Malignant party then in armes, who were like to have destroyed all. For which end, when they had entred in a solemn League and Covenant with that Nation, as they did oblige themselves for the defence and preservation of his Majesties Person and just greatnesse and Authority in the defence and preservation of Religion, so they did never desist to solicit his Majesty for satisfaction to the just desires of both Kingdoms, and were alwayes, upon his Majesties granting of the same, willing to admit him to the exercize of his Royall Power.

Thirdly, it is alledged, that after all manner of assurances given to his Majesty before his coming to the Scotish Armie, notwithstanding of assurances, bee was sold unto the English: But we are confident that albeit all the generation of Malignants of the three Kingdoms have now for three years together filled this and
the Nations abroad with the noyle of such things, that yet to this
day never any of them did, nor could bring any evidence of such
assurance given, or such bargane made by this Kingdom, nay
such assurances were always refused, and when the King did cast
himself upon the Scotch Army, this Kingdom was so far from
making any sale of him, that they did not condescend to leave
him with his Subjects in England, untill sufficient surety was
given by both Houses of Parliament concerning the safety and
preservation of his Majesties Person. It is great malice to say,
that because the Scotch Army, about the time of his Majesties
living at New-Castle, did receive some part of those arrears due
unto them for their painfull and faithfull service in England, that
therefore this Kingdom did fell their King; The arrears which
were then received were due before the King came unto our Army,
And in all probability had been more timously and cheerfully
paid if he had not come thither at all.

Fourthly, they are slandered as complotters of the Kings de-
sruction by secret intercourses both before, in the time, and since
his Majesties horrid murther: If those things be evident, why
were not the proofs brought forth and produced before the world
for convincing the authors and abettors thereof, and gaining cre-
dit to the cause of those that make so bold allegiance: The
publick endeavours and Testimonies of this Kirk and Kingdom
against the taking of his Majesties life, do sufficiently refute all
such secret and private whisperings.

Lastly, they are charged as robbers of the King who now is
of all right, because of their declaring him King with provisoes:
But are these provisoes or conditions any other then such as have
been in the time of his predecessors, and whereunto by the Lawes
and constitutions of this Kingdom he is obliged, and without
which, Religion and the peace of the Kingdom cannot be secured.

These and the like slanders are made a ground of invitation unto
the people of this Land to abandon the cause, and work of re-
formation, and to rise in Armes against the Parliament and
Kingdom,
Kingdom; and joyne them selves with such forces as that mes-
ster of men and his complices shall make use of for invading of this
Land, to which he labours to per swade a promis e of pardon for
what is past, and of his Majesties resolution to be ever ready to ra-
tife, so soon as it shall please God to put it in his power accord-
ting to the advice of the supream Judicat ories of this Kingdome, all
what has been done by his Royall Father in order to our peace.
Though we should be silent and say nothing, we are per swaded that
there be none in the Land who has any regard to truth or righteou-
ness, or in whom any (ponk of the love of the Lords work, or of
this country does reside, but as they abominate and abhor the ve-
ry name of that excommunicate wretch, and think these lies worthy
of no other entertainment then is to be allowed to the devices of the
father of lies, unto whose hands he is delivered; so we are confident
that they will detest and avoid all such desperate and wicked designs
attempted whether by him or by any other. Shall men, after so
many solemn vowes and promises before the Lord, and his hand
lifted up so high in making plain before them the way wherein they
should walk, be so blind and base as to be charmed into a most
godlesse course against Religion and the blood of the Lords peo-
ple by the offer of a pardon, where there has been no transgression
but a following of duty: or shall any be cheated into delusion by
a flourish of most ambiguous words of his Majesties resolution to
be ever ready to ratify, so soon as it shall please God to put him
in his power according to the advice of the supream Judicat ories
of this Kingdom, all what has been done by his Royall Father in
order to our peace? To say nothing that the League and Covenan
and the Union betwixt the Kingdoms, and the whole work of
Uniformity is here cut off at one clap, though yet we trust that
these things will be dearer to all the Lords people in the Land
then their Estates or lives: The words are so emptie and doubtfull
as may suffer any interpretation men lift to put upon them, and may
conflict with the utter undoing of all that has been done in this
Land for asserting the puritie of Religion and the libertie of the
subject
Subject. His Majesty must first be put in power, before he engage himselfe to do any thing at all, and when in power, no obligation upon him, unless the supream Judicatories of the Kingdom shall to advise; neither is it determined what these Judicatories are, whether his Majesty shall be obliged to follow the advice, and which is more strange, Religion is not so much as named in all the concessi-
on, but all is wrapped under the notion of these things which the King his Royall Father granted in order to our peace: which may be so expounded as to take in things Civill only that concern the peace of the Kingdom, or at the best, insinuates the motive of all that his Majesty granted concerning Religion to this Kingdom to have been only a desire of peace, and not any thing in Religion itself; And so draws alongs with it a secret reflection upon the Nationall Covenant and all the work of God relating thereto, and concludes them alterable as the change may produce peace or warre. We think we need not desire any man to consider what could be the case of Religion and of all that love it in this Land, if it were in the power of that persidious and proud Atheist to modell the supream Judicatories of the Kingdom according to his minde: hee who hath so far forgotten his Covenant and Oath, in which he entered in lo publick and solemn a way, as to call all that is contained therein, and has flowed therefrom violent and most unjust desires, and the work of Reformation from the beginning rebellion, will not spare the overturning and destroying thereof, and the bringing back this poor Nation to the licking up of the vomit of Prelacie, the ceremonies and the Service Book, for making way to a fuller compliance with the Church of Rome: Which we have the more cause to fear, for that the free exercise and full liberty of popish Religion is granted by his Majesty to those bloody rebels in Ireland. To us it is above question, that as the alteration of Religion, and the establishing of an arbitrarie and illimited power for bringing the same about, was the designe from the beginning, so that the same is still promoted by the popish, Prelaticall and malignant partie, and shall (if they prevale) be the fruit of their workes.

Therefore
Therefore, as the servants of the living God, we warn and ob-
test all the Lords people throughout the Land, that as they would
not draw on themselves the wrath of the most high God by breach
of Covenant and gross backsliding, that they do not hearken to
any such calumnies and slanders, nor suffer themselves by the
power thereof to be drawn from their steadfastnesse, or to give any
connivance, let be countenance or assistance unto any who shall in-
vade this Kingdom or raise war therein under pretence of Com-
mission from his Majestie, and putting him in the exercise of his
Royall power before satisfaction had from him to the just and ne-
cessarie desires of this Kirk and Kingdom concerning Religion
and the Covenant. The late Generall Assembly in their De-
claration did by many grave and undeniable reasons demonstrate
the unlawfulnessse and sinfulnessse of any such attempt, and it shall
be now seasonable for any man, who doubts to make use of these
things for satisfying his Judgement, and convincing him in the point
of conscience, that he may not dash himselfe against the rock of
the Lords power, which shall certainly break in pieces all those
that oppose themselves to his work, and lead forth with the
workers of iniquitie all those that turn aside to their crooked
wayes.

Albeit, the avenging hand of the most high, hath pursuued and
followed with vengance, many of those who assisted that unnatu-
ral man in the shedding of the blood of his Countrey, and that
many of them have tasted of the bitter fruits both of civil and ec-
clesiasstic cenfures, and that a temptation to so great a wickednesse
from such a one as James Grahame, seeme to be so grosse as may
scarre most of the Malignant party themselves, who yet continue in opposition to the work of God, let be those who have humbled themselves for their former compliances with evill cour-
ses, or have kept their integrity without swaering; Yet it shall
be the wisdom of all within the Land to guard their hearts by
prayer and supplication, and to arme themselves with the strenth
of the Lord against defection. Experience hath proven through-
out
out all the tracts of the work of God, that many hath fallen off from day to day, and that new trials have produced new discoveries of the hollowness of the hearts of some, concerning whom many did promise to themselves better things; none can be stedfast in the covenant, but these whole hearts are right with God: We wish therefore everie man to search and trye his wayes, and as to repent of all his former provocations, to in the strength of the Mediator Jesus Christ, to studie to walk with God, and to order his conversation aright; Then may we be confident that the Lord shall establish us, and that no weapon that is formed against us shall prosper, and that everie tongue that riseth against us in Judgment we shall condemn.

FINIS

A. Ker.