

{Anno} {1552.}

the eight of the sayde month, first lamenteth the heauie dis- fension fallen betwene the Nobilitie and him, which he sa- keith for such a plague, as a greater could not be sent of al- mighty God vpon this Realme, being the next way (saith he) to make of vs conquerors, slaues, & like to induce vpon the whole realme an vniuersal calamitie & thalidome, vniuersal godnes of the Lorde do helpe, & some wise order be taken in slaying these great extremities. And as touching the Dukes request in his letters, for as much as he heard before of this broile of the Lorde, & feared least some conspiracie had ben meant against the kings person, he hasted forwarde with such company as he coulde make, for the surety of y<sup>e</sup> king, as to him appertained. Now perceiuing by the Lordes letters sent vnto him the same firste day of Octo. these tumults to rise vpon priuate causes be- twene him and them, he therfore thought it expedient, that a conuenient power should be leued, to be in a readines to withstand the worse (what perils soener might ensue) for the preservation both of the king, & state of the realm from the inuasion of forraine enemies, and also for the slaying of bloodshed, if any such thing should be intended betwixt the parties in the heate of thys faction. And this hee thinking beste for discharge of his allegiance, humbly beseecheth his grace to haue y<sup>e</sup> same also in speciall regard and consideration, first that the kings Maiestie be put in no feare, & that if there be any such thing wherein he hath geuen iust cause to them thus to procede, hee will to confoyne him selfe, as yo such priuate quarrels do rebound to the publike distur- bance of the Realme: certifying moreover the Duke, that if it were true whyche he vnderstandeth by the letters of the Lordes, y<sup>e</sup> he should send about proclamations and letters for raising vp of the commons, he liked not the same. Not- withstanding hee trusted well, that his wisdom would take such a way, as no effusion of blood should follow.

The effect of the L. Russells letter answering to the Lord Protector.

The contents of the second answer of the L. Russell to the Lord Protector.

The good L. Russell a solicitor for peace betwene the Lord Protector and the Lorde.

The Lorde of the Councell assembled against the Lorde Protector.

And thus muche being contained in his former letters of the eight of October, in his next letters againe, wyrtten the 11. day of Octob. the said Lord Russell reioyng to heare of the most reasonable offers of the Lorde Protector made to the Lordes, wyrteth vnto him, & promisyth to doe what in the uttermost power of him (and likewise of Sir W. Herbert ioyned together with him) doe lie, to worke some hon- orable reconciliation betwene him & them: so as his sayd offers being accepted & satisfied, some good conclusion might ensue, according to their good hope & expectation: Signi- fying moreover, that as touching the leuying of men, they had resolued to haue the same in readinesse for the benefite of the realme, to occurre all inconueniences what soeuer, ei- ther by forraine inuasion or otherwise might happen, & so hauing their power at hand, to draw neare, whereby they might haue the better oportunitie to be solicitours, and a means for this reformation on both parties, &c. And thus much for answer of the Lorde Russells to the Lorde Protec- tors letters.

But nowe to the matter againe of the Lordes, who to- gether with the Earle of Warwike (vpon what occasion God knoweth) being assembled at London, as ye heard, a- gainst the Lorde Protector: when the king with his coun- saile at Hampton court heard thereof, first Secretarie Peter with the kings message was sent vnto them, whome the Lorde notwithstanding detained still with them, making as yet no answer to the message, wherupon the L. Protec- tor wyrteth to them in this maner as followeth.

A letter of the Lorde Protector, to the Councill at London.

MY Lordes, we commend vs most hartly vnto you, & wher- as the kings Maiestie was informed that you were assem- bled in such sorte as you doe and nowe remaine, and was aduised by vs and such other of his Counsaile as were then there aboute his persone, to send M. Secretarie Peter vnto you, with such mes- sage as whereby mighte haue ensued the suretie of hys Maiesties persone, with preservation of his realme and subiects, & the quiet both of vs and your selues; as maister Secretarie can well declare to you: his maiestie and we of his Counsaile heere doe not a litle maruel that you stay still with you the sayd M. Secretarie, & haue not as it were vouchsafed to send answer to his Maiestie, neyther by him nor yet any other. And for our selues we doe much more maruell and are right sorry, as both wee and you haue good cause to be, to see the manner of your doinges bente with violence, to bring the kings Maiesty and vs to these extremities. Which as we doe intende, if you will take no other way but violence, to defend (as nature and our allegiance doeth binde vs) to extremity of death, and to put all to Gods hand, who getteth victory as it pleaseth him: so that if any reasonable conditions and offers would take place (as hitherto none hath bene signified vnto vs fro you, nor we doe not vnderstand what you do require or seeke, or what you do meane) & that you do seeke no hurt to the kings Maiesties

person: as touching all other priuate matters, to auoid the effusi- on of Christian blood, and to preserve the kings Maiesties person, his realme and subiectes, you shall finde vs agreeable to any rea- sonable conditions that you will require. For we doe esteeme the kings wealth and tranquillitie of the realme, more then all other worldly things, yea more then our owne life. Thus praying you to send vs your determinate answer heerein by M. Secretarie Peter, or if you will not let him go, by this bearer: we beseeche God to geue both you and vs grace to determine this matter, as maye be to Gods honour, the preservation of the king, and the quiet of vs all, which may be, if the fault be not in you. And so we bid you most hartly fare well. From the kings maiesties Castle of Wind- fore, the 7. of Octob. 1549.

Your Lordships louing friend, E. Somerset.

After these letters received, and the reasonable condi- tion of the Lorde Protector, and yet not much regarded of the Lordes, they persisting still in their pretended purpose, took this aduise: first to keepe them selues in the Citie of London, as strong as they might: and therfore calling vpon the Maior and the Aldermen, they willed them in any case to provide a good and substantiall watch by nyght, and a good warde by day, for the safeguard of their Citie, and the portes and gates thereof: which was consented vnto, and the Companies of London in theyr turnes warned to watch and warde accordingly.

Then the sayd Lordes and Counsaillours demanded of the Lorde Maior and hys brethren 500. menne to ayde them to fetch the Lorde Protector out of Windsoze from the king: but therunto the Maior answered, that he coulde grant none aide without the assent of the common Coun- saile of the citie: wherupon the next day a common coun- cell was warned. But in this meane time the said Lordes of the Counsaile assembled theselues at the Lorde Maiors house of London, who then was Syr Henrye Amcorttes Fishmonger, and W. Locke Mercer, and Sir John Aleph Sherriffes of the said citie, and there the said Counsaile did agree and publish a proclamation forthwith against the Lorde Protector, the effect of which proclamation was as followeth.

- 1 First, that the Protector by his malicious and euill go- uernment, was the occasion of all the sedition that of late happened within the realme.
- 2 The losse of the kings preces in France.
- 3 That he was ambitious and sought his owne glorie, as appeared by building of most sumptuous & costly hou- ses; in the time of the kings warres.
- 4 That hee esteemed nothinge the graue Counsaile of the Counsaillours.
- 5 That he sowed diuision betwene the Nobles, the gen- tlemen, and the commons.
- 6 That the Nobles assembled them selues together at Londs for none other purpose, but to haue caused the pro- tector to haue liued wythin limites, and to haue put such order for the suretie of the kings maiesty as appertained: what soeuer the Protector's doinges were, whyche they sayd were vnnaturall, ingrate, and traiterous.
- 7 That the Protector slandered the Counsaile to the king, and did that in him lay, to cause variance betwixt the king and the nobles.
- 8 That hee was a great traitor, and therfore the Lordes desired the citie & commons to aid them, to take hym from the king.

And in witnes and testimonie of the contents of the said proclamation, the Lordes subscribed theyr names, whych were these.

The Lorde Rich, Lord Chauncellour.	the kings house, and Lord Warden of the Cinque portes.
The Lord S. Iohn, Lord great maister, & pre- sident of the Coun- saile.	Syr Iohn Gage knight, Constable of the Tower.
The Lord Marques of Northampton.	Syr Wil. Peter knight, Secretarie.
The Earle of Warwike, Lord great Cham- berlaine.	Syr Edward North knight.
The Earle of Arundel, L. Chamberlaine.	Syr Edward Monta- gue, chief Iustice of the common place.
The Earle of Shrews- burie.	Syr Rafe Sadler.
The Earle of South- hampton, Wriothe- sley.	Syr Iohn Baker.
Sir Thomas Cheyney knight, treasurer of	Syr Edw. Wootton. Doctour Wootton. Deane of Cant.
	Syr Rich. Southwell.

No worde he- then sent from the Lords to the Lord Protector, what they re- quired of him to doe. Reasonable con- ditions offered by the Lord Protector.

A solemn watch comman- ded in London.

The City of London pressed with 500. men to fetch the L. Protector. The answer of the Lorde Maior to the Lordes. The Lorde as- sembled in the L. Maiors house.

The effect of the proclamation set out against the Lord Protector.