

The Alien Act, 1705

Transcript of the first page of the Alien Act, 1705 (NRS, Hamilton Papers, reference GD406/M1/247/1)

An

ACT

for the Effectual Securing the Kingdom of England from the apparent Dangers that may arise from several Acts lately passed in the Parliament of Scotland.

For preventing the many Inconveniencies which may speedily happen to the two Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, if a nearer and more compleat Union be not made between the said Kingdoms, *Be it Enacted* by the QUEEN's most Excellent Majesty, by, and with the Advice and Consent of the *Lords Spiritual and Temporal*, and of the *Commons*, in this present *Parliament* Assembled; and by the Authority of the same, That such Persons as shall be nominated by Her MAJESTY, under Her *Great Seal of England*, or such, and so many of them as shall, in that Behalf, be appointed by Her MAJESTY, to be of the *Quorum*, shall, by Force of this *Act*, have full Power, Commission, and Authority at such Time and Times, and in such Place and Places, as Her MAJESTY shall please to appoint to assemble and meet; and thereupon to treat and consult according to the Tenor and Purport of their Authority or Commission in that Behalf, with certain *Commissioners*, as shall be authorized by Authority of the *Parliament of Scotland*, of, and concerning such an Union of the said Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, and of, and concerning such other Matters, Clauses, and Things, as upon mature Deliberation of the greatest part of the said *Commissioners* Assembled, as aforesaid, and the *Commissioners* to be authorised by the *Parliament of Scotland*, according to the Tenour or Purport of their Commissions in that Behalf, shall, in their Wisdoms, think

<http://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org>

© Crown copyright: National Records of Scotland

This resource may be reused freely for educational purposes. For all other proposed reuse including any publication, please email: onlineresources@nas.gov.uk

Scottish Archives for Schools online resources
The Union of 1707

convenient and necessary for the Honour of Her MAJESTY, and the common Good of both the said Kingdoms for ever, which *Commissioners* of both the said Kingdoms, shall, according to the Tenour or Purport of their said Authorities or Commissions in that Behalf, reduce their Doings and Proceedings therein in Writings or Instruments Quadrupartite, every Part to be subscribed and sealed

by them, to the end that one Part thereof may, in all Humbleness be presented to the QUEEN's most Excellent MAJESTY, two other Parts thereof to be offered to the Consideration of the *Parliament* for the Realm of *England*, and another Part to be offered to the Consideration of the *Parliament* for the Realm of *Scotland*, at their next *Sessions*, which shall be held in each Kingdom respectively, after such Writings or Instruments shall be subscribed and sealed by the said *Commissioners*, that thereup-

on such further Proceedings may be had, as by Her MAJESTY, and both the said *Parliaments*, shall be thought fit and necessary for the Weal and common Good of both the said Kingdoms, to whom the entire Consideration of the whole and the Allowing or Disallowing of any part thereof, as they shall think fit, is wholly reserved. Provided always and be it further *Enacted* and declared, That no such Commission or Authority, as aforesaid, shall be granted until an *Act of Parliament* shall be made in the Kingdom of *Scotland*, empowering Her MAJESTY to grant a Commission under the *Great Seal* of that Kingdom, nominating *Commissioners* to treat concerning the Union of the two Kingdoms. Provided also and be it further *Enacted* and declared, That no Matter or Thing to be treated of, agreed or proposed by the said *Commissioners*, by Virtue of this *Act*, shall have any Force or Effect to be put in Exemption, until it be confirmed and established by *Act of Parliament of England*. And be it further *Enacted* by the Authority aforesaid, that from and after the 25 Day of *December* 1705, no Person or Persons being a Native or Natives of the Kingdom of *Scotland* (except such as are now settled Inhabitants within the Kingdom of *England*, or the Dominions thereunto belonging, and shall continue Inhabitants thereof, and such as are now in Service in her MAJESTY's Fleet or Army) shall be capable to inherit any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments within this Kingdom of *England*, or the Dominions thereunto

<http://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org>

© Crown copyright: National Records of Scotland

This resource may be reused freely for educational purposes. For all other proposed reuse including any publication, please email: onlineresources@nas.gov.uk

Scottish Archives for Schools online resources
The Union of 1707

belonging, or to enjoy any Benefit or Advantage of a natural-born Subject of *England*: But every such Person shall be, from thenceforth adjudged and taken as an Alien born out of [the Allegiance to the QUEEN of England, until such time as the Succession to the *Crown* of *Scotland*, be declared and settled by an *Act of Parliament* in *Scotland*.]

Glossary

<i>Quorum</i>	The minimum number of officers or members of a group which must be present for the decisions of that group to be authorised.
<i>Quadrupartite</i>	In four parts or done by four parties.
<i>Tenements</i>	Any property held by a tenant.
<i>Hereditaments</i>	Property inherited by heirs.

<http://www.scottisharchivesforschools.org>

© Crown copyright: National Records of Scotland

This resource may be reused freely for educational purposes. For all other proposed reuse including any publication, please email: onlineresources@nas.gov.uk