

Hints of Bribery

Transcript of 'A Letter from a Gentleman in the town to His Freind in the Countrey', December 1706 (NRS reference GD406/M1/253/14)

Transcript:

A Letter From a Gentleman

In the town

To

His freind in the Countrey.

Sir

I have yours, and will acknowledge That our actings here may
justly surprise yow, and if yow would incline still to doubt, yett I must
assure yow That the printed articles of the unione instead of being treated
by the parliament as yow think they deserve, meets with the most favourable
receptione; and not only so butt they who cannot think so well of them
are immediatly proclaim'd freinds of a popish prince, and pensionaries
to France, and this is the more strange That those who are not satisfied
with this incorporating unione are not a few, Butt I may very
safely say three parts of four in the natione if not more, Butt
yett that a considerable majority in parliament appears to be for
it is true, I cannot so certainly tell yow, how it comes to be so well
received there, Butt shall observe that of these who approv'd the first
article, above seventy had place or pensione; And without great
breach of charity I may say some that has none att present expects
them, and yow see by the 15th article four hundred thousand
pound Sterling as ane equivalent to be given to Scotland for

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The Union of 1707

coming under the same customes and excises with England,
is appropriat for paying the publict debts and satisfiying
the losses of the proprietars of the African company, And
seeing severall of the members of parliament have either
debts owing them, or are sharers in that company, a great
part of that soume I beleive will go into their pockets, This
may help them to have a better opinione of the unione; In the next
place the principall contrivers and now the most violent promoters
of it hope, by sinking our parliaments to be for ever safe from...

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