

Petition from the Burgh of Stirling

Transcript of the petition from the Royal Burgh of Stirling to the Scottish Parliament, 18 November 1706 (NRS reference PA7/28/48)

To his Grace, her Majesties high Commissioner

And Estates of Parliament

The address of the Provost, Baillies Towne Council and other Inhabitants

Of the Burgh of Sterling

Humble Sheueth

That haveing had our most deliberat thoughts upon the great

Affair of the Union Of the tua Nationes; As contained in the printed Articles, We judge it our

indispensible duetie to the Natione, to the place, yea to posteritie; With all Imaginable deference

To your Grace and honorable Estates of Parliament, humblie to Represent, That though wee are

sincerlie desyreous, That true peace and friendship be perpetuallie cultivat with our Neighboures in

England

upon just and honorable termes, Consisting with the Being, Sovereignitie, and Independencie Of our

Nation and Parliaments as defenders their of; Yet we judge your goeing in to this Treatie

As it now lyes befor yow, Will bring ane Insupportable burden of Taxationes upon this Land. Which

all

the Grante of friedome of Trade will never counter baleance, Being soe uncertaine and precarious

whyle still

under the Regulationes of the English in the Parliament of Britain, who may at pleasure discouradge

the most considerable branches of our Trade, If any way apprehended to interfeire with their oune.

That it

will prove Ruining to our Manufactories. That it will be ane exposing Of our Religione, Church

Government, as by law Established, Our claim Of Right Lawes, Liberties, and consequentlie

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The Union of 1707

all that's valuable To be Incroatched upon, yea whollie subverted by Them, Whose principales does and supposed interests may lead theirunto. That it will be a depyveing of Us, And the rest of the Royeal

Burghs in this Nacione, in a great measure Of our fundamentall Right and propertie Of being represented

in the Legislative pouer; That theirby One of the most Ancient Nations, soe long and soe gloriouslie defended by our Worthie Patriots will be suppress. Our Parliaments the very Hedge of all that is dear to Us extinguished. And wee and our posteritie brought under ane Lasting Yoke which we will never be able to bear; The fatal consequences of which we tremble to think upon.

Wee thairfor Conforme to the Privilidge allowed to Us In our clame Of Right, most humblie supplicat, and firmlie expect from your Grace And the honorable Estates of Parliament That ye will not conclude ane Incorporating Unione soe destructive to many And dangerous to the whol Of these things which are dear to Us, That ye will be pleased to lay the evident danger their of befor our most Gracious Queen That some Recess may be granted untill some expedient be found out for the more universall satisfacione Of her Majesties good subjects, That ye will soe setle the state of this Nacione as the hopes and attempts of all Papish pretenders whatsoever may be for ever defeat; That ye will mantaine and support the true reformed Protestant religione, The Government of this National Church, As now by law established; The Sovereignitie and Independence Of this Nacione, in all its liberties, sacred and civile; the undoubted properties Of every Member of this Realme; That ye will mantaine and defend the Rights and Beings of our Parliaments And our privilidge Of Still being Represented therin, Without

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which we cannot reckon our selves secure in the possessione of
those things soe Valuable in themselves; And which wee
are Resolved to defend with our lives and fortunes According
to our Lawes and Claim of Right In testimony wherof
Wee have subscribed thes presents At Stirling the eighteenth day
Of November One thousand seven hundered and six years upon this and
the fyve following sheets.

[Here follows signatures of the Provost and Baillies of the Royal Burgh of Stirling, along with many other residents there. These have not been transcribed. The 'fyve following sheets' have since been joined together into a single roll.]

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