

# Welcome to the Scottish Commissioners

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## **Transcript of the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England's welcome to the Scottish Commissioners, 16 April 1706 (NRS reference PA18/2 p.10)**

My Lords

We the Commissioners appointed by her Majesty and authorized by the Parliament of England to Consult and Treat with your Lordships as Impowred in like manner by Her Maj[es]ty and the Parliament of Scotland Concerning an Union of the two Kingdoms, and such other things as wee the Commissioners on both parts shall think convenient and necessary for the honour of Her Majesty and the Common good of both Kingdoms, do apprehend there never was (in any assembly of this nature) so little occasion as at present for the Comm[issione]rs of England to give any verbal assurances of their Zeal to Promote and Compleat, (so far as in their power) the great and good design we are met about, since it cannot be Doubted, but that we bring along with us the same sentiments which so lately appeared in the Parliament of England when they took Care to Manifest by a Solemn Act that they did postpone all other considerations to their evidencing a good and friendly disposition towards the Kingdom of Scotland.

The Parliament of England in making that unexpected advance seem'd resolv'd if possible, to attain that Union which hath been so long thought necessary by all that wish well to the

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The Union of 1707

prosperity of both Nations.

And We most sincerely assure your Lordships That Wee accordingly meet your Lordships, with hearts fully resolvd to use our utmost Endeavours to remove all difficultys in this Treaty, to prevent all misunderstandings, to Cherish and Improve the good Dispositions to one another We meet with to have the General and joynt good of both Kingdoms solely in our view, and not the Seperate of either, but to Act as if we were already United in Interest, and had nothing left to Consider but what Settlements and Provisions are most likely to conduce to the Com[m]on safety and happiness of this whole Island of Great Britain. Which measures if pursued on both parts, wee hope may enable us to prepare such Terms of Union, as may prove satisfactory to Her Majesty and the Parliaments of both Kingdoms.

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