

9-1-1642

**The Humble Petition and Protestation of the County of Kent: Presented the 30th of August, 1642. to the ... Parliament by Sir John Sidley. Wherein They Disclaim That Late, Bold, and Unexampled Petition Sent to His Majestie, Contrived by a Few Malevolent, Ambitious and Loose Persons, and Their Reall Affections to King and Parliament. Together with Sir John Sidleys Speech upon the Presenting of the Said Petition. Also, the Answer of the House of Commons to the Said Petition Delivered by Their Speaker**

Kent (England)

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B 5  
J. Chapman

The Humble  
**P E T I T I O N**  
A N D  
**P R O T E S T A T I O N**  
of the County of *KENT*:

Presented the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, 1642.  
to the Honorable Houses of *PARLIAMENT*  
By Sir *JOHN SIDLER* Knight, with  
many thousands of hands thereunto.

Wherein they disclaim that late, bold, and unexampled  
Petition sent to His Majesty, contrived by a few malevolent,  
ambitious and loose persons, and their reall affections  
to *KING* and *PARLIAMENT*.

Together with Sir *John Sidleys* Speech upon the pre-  
senting of the said Petition.

Also, the Answer of the House of Commons to the  
said Petition delivered by their *SPEAKER*.

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*O*rdere*d* by the Commons in *Parliament*, That these Petitions  
be forthwith Printed and published:

H. Elsyng*e*, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

---

*London*, Printed by *LUKE NORTON* and *JOHN FIELD*  
for *E. Husband* and *J. Franck*, and are to be sold at their shops  
in the Middle-Temple, and next door to the Kings-head  
in Fleetstreet. September 1. 1642.



P E T I T I O N

The Humble

A N D  
P R O T E S T A T I O N

of the County of Kent.

Presented the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 1642.

to the Honorable Houses of PARLIAMENT

By Sir JOHN SIDER Knight, with

many thousands of hands therein

Wherein they declare that they hold and understand

Parliament as His Majesty conceived by His Majesty's

ambassadors and loose persons, and their real affections

to KING and PARLIAMENT.

Together with Sir John Sider's Speech upon the pre-

senting of the said Petition

Also the Answer of the House of Commons to the

said Petition delivered by their SPEAKERS.

Printed by the Commons in Parliament, That the Petition

be forthwith Printed and published:

H. ELLIS, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

London, Printed by Luke Norton and John Field

for E. Husbands and J. E. and are to be sold at their shops

in the Middle Temple, and next door to the Kings-head

in Fleetstreet. September 1. 1642.



Die Martis 30 Augusti, 1642.

**T**He House being informed that divers well-affected Gentlemen of Kent were at the door to present to this House an humble Petition, they were called in; And Sir John Sidley in the name of the rest, spake to this effect following:

Mr. *S P E A K E R*,

1. **I** Am intrusted by the well-affected Gentry, and Commons of *Kent*, to present their humble desires, and faithfull Resolutions, in a Petition to this Honorable House.

2. This Petition comes guided hither with as many hearts as hands; It is like a coat without seame; it hath no subtrill disguised Preamble to it; it is all of a piece, speaking plain language, yet full of loyalty, and obedience to His Majesty and the Parliament.

3. This Petition is more considerable then any that hath been presented from this County, coming not onely from that part of the Gentry who are exceedingly well-affected to the true Religion, and their Country, but embraced with such a unanimous consent of the intire body of the Commonalty, as that each man contested for the first subscription to it.

4. The Commons of *Kent* are very deeply sensible of the many injuries done them by severall Petitions, especially by that late unexampled bold one to His Majestie, falsely assuming to it the Votes of the whole County; whereas indeed, it was contrived by a few malevolent and ambitious spirits only, and wholly disclaimed of the Commons, and was subscribed by divers



(4)

loose and dissolute persons. This was growing to a dangerous Imposthume (having gathered the most of its corruption about the Town of *Maydstone*) had not the Parliament timely observed it, and applyed that seasonable remedy, sending down the late Troops of Horse to launch the sore, thereby preventing all further or future ulceration: For which vigilant care of theirs thus to preserve the whole body, the Commons have desired me to return their most humble and gratefull acknowledgement to this Honorable House.



To the Honorable, the Knights,  
Citizens and Burgeesses now assembled in the  
high Court of Parliament:

*The humble Petition and Protestation of the Knights,  
Gentlemen, and Commons of the County of Kent;*

SHEWETH,

**T**HAT the feare of misapprehensions and misunderstandings of our duties and respects to this House, is that which emboldens us humbly to present our affections and protestations.

And first, with all possible thanks for your great care and Resolution in the well discharge of your publick trust, which (with so much opposition to you, never read or heard of in former times) you have hitherto undertaken and encountred, with the hazard of some of your Lives and Fortunes.

And we do all most confidently believe, and much  
joy



joy in the thought of it (notwithstanding the misrepresentation of your Actions by some ill-affected to publick good for private ends) that all your Actions and endeavours have aymed at the maintenance of the Protestant Religion, the preservation of the Kings Person, the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, and the Liberties of the Subject, according to the late Protestation commended to us.

And that there may not appear of any fayler in our duties and respects to you, We the Knights, Gentlemen, and Commons of the County aforesaid, Do humbly present this Protestation; That to our utmost powers and endeavours, and with the hazard of all that is neer and deer unto us in our lives and estates, we shall and will maintain, preserve, and defend, the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, and the full authority thereof, the Kings Person, the Protestant Religion, and the Liberties of the Subject.

And we humbly desire that all ill-affected persons opposite hereunto, by the power and justice of this House, may receive such a degree of punishment, as those that are professed enemies to the true Religion, the peace and prosperity of this Kingdom.

And we humbly pray God (whom we infinitely praise and thank for his blessings hitherto, your endeavours manifested in the happy settlement of peace betwixt us and our Neighbour Nation, and in the preservation of some of your Members from apparent dangers) that those mists of misunderstandings fomented by persons ill-affected to our publick peace & religion, and now interposing betwixt His Majesties grace and goodnesse to you, and your duties to Him (hinder-  
ing



ing those sweet influences, which otherwise in a great measure by all probability would have a free passage betwixt His Majestie and you) by your great wisdoms may be so dispel'd and taken away, that a cleer and right understanding might be had of your Actions and Intentions to His Majestie and this Kingdom: And this (God working in his Majesties heart an inclination thereunto) we are confident will speedily render a great proportion of happinesse to His Majestie, your selves and the rest of this Kingdom.

*which shall be the prayers of, &c.*



To the Right Honourable, the  
Commons House of Parliament:

*The humble Petition of the Knights, Gentlemen,  
and Commons, of the County of Kent.*

**W**E your humble and faithfull Petitioners inhabiting the Countie of Kent, being deeply sensible of the many miseries which these calamitous times (notwithstanding your great care and vigilance to prevent the same) are likely to produce, wherein His gracious Majestie, seduced by the malevolent Councell of an ill-affected party of Malignants and Cavaliers, the Protestant Religion, His Royall Person and Honour, the Priviledge of Parliament, & the Subjects Liberty are threatned with too too apparent hazard and ruine, towards the support of which, your Petitioners according to the duty of loyal subjects and good Christians, are not only willing to contribute  
their



their best wishes & Votes, but even the utmost of their  
endeavours, both with their lives & fortunes, for the re-  
deeming of His Majestie from such hands, and our Re-  
ligion & Liberty from such peril and danger; But may  
it please this honorable House to consider, that the Pe-  
titioners apprehend themselves in a condition and po-  
sture nothing futable to this their Resolution, being de-  
prived and left naked by the taking our Arms from us  
in the late expedition for *Scotland*; We therefore be-  
seech your provident care to impower us with such  
a proportion of Ammunition and Arms to be maga-  
zin'd in these parts, whereby we may be enabled to  
manifest our affections and obedience to the Com-  
mand of King and Parliament, both for the pursuance  
of the aforesaid intentions, and opposition of all ille-  
gall infringements of our Laws and Liberties, such as  
the Commission of Array, wherewith we are at this  
time threatned, and what other of the like nature and  
condition soever, shall be hereafter obtruded upon us,

*And your Petitioners shall be bound, &c.*

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*The Answer of the House of Commons, to the Petitions of the  
Knights, Gentlemen, and Commons of the County of Kent, pre-  
sented the 30 of August, 1642. delivered by their Speaker.*

GENTLEMEN,

I Am commanded by the House to let you know,  
That it is no small satisfaction and contentment to  
this House, to find the affectiōs & resolutions of your  
County, expressed to them so seasonably and so worthy  
of your selves, as they now receive them in these Petiti-  
ons; especially observing the many subtile practises  
that have bin set on foot under the name of that Coun-  
ty,



ry, to work in this House a contrary opinion of you; from which you have now so well and fully vindicated your selves and them.

Nor can we but observe, that at this time, when contrary to the Fundamentall Constitution of this Government, both Houses of Parliament, and the whole Kingdom in them represented, are by the seducement of wicked Councell, proclaimed Traytors, (a thing untill this time unheard of) you do with so much zeal and resolution, offer your selves, your lives and fortunes, to support your Religion and Liberty, your Country, King and Parliament, all now in imminent danger of utter ruine. For which, the House hath commanded me to return you their most hearty thanks. And touching those Malignant and ill-affected persons, whereof you have in your Petition given a generall character, and in particular presented a List of some of them; This House doth assure you, That they will, according to your desires, proceed against them with all expedition and severity.

And concerning your desires for a supply of Ammunition and Arms for the defence of your County, such hath been the care of both Houses in that particular, and for the generall security and peace hereof, That they have already granted full power and Instructions to a Committee, and the Deputy Lieutenants appointed by them for your County, to take a course therein, which they doubt not will give you ample satisfaction.

FINIS.