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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The Humble

PETITION

AND

PROTESTATION

of the County of KENT:

Presented the 30th of August, 1642.

to the Honorable Houses of PARLIAMENT

By Sir JOHN SIDLEY Knight, with

many thousands of hands thereunto.

Wherein they disclaim that late, bold, and unexampled

Petition sent to His Majestie, contrived by a few malevolent,

ambitious and loose persons, and their real affection

to KING and PARLIAMENT.

Together with Sir John Sidley'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 SPEAKER.

Ordered by the Commons in Parliament, That these Petitions

be forthwith printed and published:


London, Printed by Luke NORTON and John FIELD

for E. Husband and J. Franch, and are to be sold at their shops

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

in Fleetstreet. September 1, 1642.
The humble PETITION and PROTESTATION of the County of Kent. Presented the 30th of August, 1648, to the Honorable Houses of Parliament by Sir John Sackville Knight, with many thousands of humble petitions. Whereupon the grievances and importunity determined to be redressed, and proposals to be made for the welfare of the realm. Printed for Nathaniel and John Herring, in the Middle Temple, and now sold at their book-shops in Fleet Street.
Die Martis 30 Augusti, 1642.

The House being informed that divers well-afflicted 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, spoke to this effect following:

Mr. Speaker,

1. I am intrusted by the well-afflicted Gentry, and Commons of Kent, to present their humble desires, and faithful 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 subtill 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 exceeding well-afflicted to the true Religion, and their Country, but embraced with such a unanimous content of the whole body of the Commonalty, as that each man contended 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, falsly 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 vot...
loose and dissolute persons. This was growing to a
dangerous Imposthume (having gathered the most of
its corruption about the Town of Maidstone) had not
the Parliament timely observed it, and applyed that
reasonable remedy, sending down the late Troops of
Horse to launch the fore, thereby preventing all fur-
ther 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 Burgesses 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:

That the feare of misapprehensions and misun-
derstandings 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 pub-
lick trust, which (with so much opposition to you,
ever read or heard of in former times) you have hi-
thereto 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-affecteto 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 sayler 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 near and dear 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-affectted 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 misls of misunderstandings fomented by persons ill-affectted to our publick peace & religion, and now interposing betwixt His Majesties grace and goodness to you, and your duties to Him (hinder-
ing those sweet influences, which otherwise in a great measure by all probability would have a free passage betwixt His Majesty and you: by your great wisdoms may be so dispel'd and taken away, that a clear and right understanding might be had of your Actions and Intentions to His Majesty and this Kingdom, and this (God working in his Majesty's heart an inclination thereunto) we are confident will speedily render a great proportion of happinesse to His Majesty, your selves and the rest of this Kingdom, which shall be the prayers of, 

To the Right Honourable, the Commons House of Parliament:

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

WHEREAS 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 Majesty, seduced by the malevolent Counsell of an ill affected party of Malignants and Cavaliers, the Protestant Religion, His Royall Person and Honour, the Privilege of Parliament, & the Subjects Liberty are threatened with too apparent hazard and ruining, 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 redeeming of His Majesty from such hands, and our Religion & Liberty from such peril and danger. But may it please this honorable House to consider, that the Petitioners apprehend themselves in a condition and posture nothing suitable to this their Resolution, being deprived and left naked by the taking our Arms from us in the late expedition for Scotland; We therefore beseech your provident care to empower us with such a proportion of Ammunition and Arms to be magazined in these parts, whereby we may be enabled to manifest our affections and obedience to the Command of King and Parliament, both for the pursuance of the aforesaid intentions, and opposition of all illegal infringements of our Laws and Liberties, such as the Commission of Array, wherewith we are at this time threatened, and what other of the like nature and condition forever, 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, presented 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 affections & resolutions of your County, expressed to them so reasonably and so worthy of your selves, as they now receive them in these Petitions; especially observing the many subtil practises that have bin set on foot under the name of that County,
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 Country, 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.