

**By the King [Proclamation adjourning the Law Courts owing to the prevalence of the plague].**

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He Kings most Excellent Maiestie, finding that the infection of the Plague is at this present in sundry places of the City of London, and neere adioyning to the same, though not (God be thanked) with the mortalitie of great numbers: yet so dispersed in diuers of the best and most open streets of the said City, as do giue iust cause to doubt, that the contagion thereof, by great resort of people, might be further spread, as wel in the City, as into other parts of the Realme, whereby danger might ensue both to his Royall person, the Queene his dearest wife, and his Royall issue, and to his most louing Subjects repairing thither for their Suits and causes: His Maiestie, for these necessary considerations, and hoping that the infection will, by the goodnesse of Almighty God, with the coldnesse of the yeere, and such wholesome Orders as are taken in his said City, the rather cease by the adiournement of part of this next Terme of S. Michael now at hand, from the Vtas of the same, vntill the fourth Returne of the said Terme called *Mense Michaelis* next comming. His Maiestie therefore, of his especiall fauour and clemencie, is pleased and contented, to adiourne the said Terme of S. Michael, that is to say, in and from the Vtas thereof, vnto the said fourth Returne of the said Terme, called *Mense Michaelis* next comming; which his Maiestie signifieth to all and singular his louing Subjects of this his Realme, to the intent that they & euery of them, which haue cause or commandement to appeare in any of his Highnesse Courts at Westminster, in or at any day or time from and after the said Vtas of S. Michael, may tary at their dwellings, or where their businesse otherwise shall lye, without resorting to any of the said Courts for that cause, before the said *Mense Michaelis* next comming, and that without incurring danger of forfeiture, penaltie, or contempt towards his Highnesse in that behalfe. And neuerthelesse his Maiesties pleasure is, That two of his Iustices, that is to say, of either Bench one, shall the first day of Michaelmas Terme, called *Octabis Michaelis*, according to the ancient order of the Lawes, keepe the *Essoignes* of the said *Octabis Michaelis*. At which Vtas of S. Michael, writs of adiournement shall be directed to the said Iustices, giuing them authority to adiourne the said Terme of S. Michael, that is to say, from the Vtas thereof, vntill the fourth Returne, as before is said. And the said adiournement shall be made in the first day of the said Vtas, commonly called, the day of *Essoignes*. And further his Maiesties pleasure is, That all matters, causes and Suits, depending in any of his other Courts betweene party and party, as in his Highnesse Courts of Chancery, Star Chamber, and Erchequer, Courts of Wards and Liueries, Duchy of Lancaster, and Court of Requests, shall haue continuance, and the parties shall haue day from the date of these presents, vntill the said fourth Returne, as before is said.

Provided alway, and his Maiesties pleasure and commandement is, That all Collectors, Receiuors, Sheriffes, and other Accountants, and all other persons, that should or ought to Account or pay any summe or summes of Money in any of his Maiesties Courts of Erchequer, Court of Wards and Liueries, and of his Duchie of Lancaster, or in any of them, or to enter into any Account in any of the said Courts, shall repaire vnto the accustomed places at Westminster, where his Highnesse hath appointed such Officers and Ministers, as for that purpose his Maiestie hath thought expedient, and there to pay and doe in euery behalfe, as though no such Proclamation of Adiournement had bene had or made. And his Highnesse further pleasure and commandement is, That all Sheriffes shall returne their writs and Prozesse against all such Accountants and Debtors, at the dayes therein appointed. And if any person or persons, who ought to account or pay any summe or summes of Money to his Maiestie in any of the Courts and places aforesaid, do make default therein, That then his Highnesse writs and Prozesse shall be awarded and sent forth against euery such person and persons, and the same to be duely and orderly serued, and returned by the Sheriffes and Officers therunto appointed, in such like maner and foyme, as the same should haue bene, if this present Proclamation had not bene made. And if any Sheriffe or other Officer shall make default, or be negligent in seruing, executing, or returning of any the writs and Prozesse aforesaid, That then euery such Sheriffe and other Officer, shall incurre such paines and penalties, as by the said Courts, or any of them shall be taxed and assessed: willing and commanding all and euery his Maiesties Sheriffes, Officers, Ministers and Subjects, to whom it doeth or shall appertaine, to obserue and keepe their assemblies and apparances with all their Returnes and Certificats, in his Highnesse said Courts at Westminster in *Mense Michaelis* next comming, then and there to be holden and kept, and there to doe their Offices and duties in euery behalfe, in like maner and foyme, as they should or ought to haue done, if this present Proclamation had not bene had or made, as they will answere to the contrary at their perils.

Given at our honour of Hampton Court the two and twentieth day of September, in the seuenth yeere of our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

Imprinted at London by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings  
most Excellent Maiestie. Anno Dom. 1609.