

M0013594: Proclamation to the Apothecaries by James I, 1618.

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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



By the King.

A Proclamation commanding all Apothecaries of this Realme, to follow the dispensatory lately compiled by the Colledge of Physicians of London.



Hereas by Our especiall Commandement, there hath bene of late compiled in the Latine tongue by the Colledge of the Physicians of London, a Booke entituled Pharmacopoea Londinensis, prescribing and directing Apothecaries the generall formes, aswell of dispensing and compounding of all sorts of Medicines, and Physicall Receipts, as distilling of Oyles and Waters, and such like extractions, together with the true weights and Measures, whereby to make them which heretofore have bene variously and differently composed, and made according as mens severall fancies have led them, to the great danger of Our Subjects in their lives and health: And whereas for the better reformation of the abuses heretofore practised in compounding of Medicines, wee thought fit to incorporate the Apothecaries of London into one body, for bedding all others within London, or seven miles thereof, to put to sale any Physicall compositions, except they were or should bee members of the said Company: And whereas through the great care and industrie of the said Colledge, the said Pharmacopoea Londinensis is now perfected and ready for the presse, and is a booke greatly tending to the publique good of Our Subjects: And wee minding that all fallshood, differences, varieties and uncertainties in making or compounding of Medicines and distilling of Oyles or Waters hereafter, be better taken away and abolished, and that in the time to come the manner and forme pre-

scribed by the sayd booke, should bee generally and soly practized by Apothecaries in their compositions of medicines and distillations of Waters, for all such things as are therein named and prescribed. Wee therefore desirous in all things to provide for the common good of Our Subjects, and intending to settle and establish the generall use of the said booke in this Realme of England, so labaziously and exactly composed by the said Colledge, doe hereby signifye and declare Our Royall will and pleasure to bee, and doe hereby straitly require, charge and command all and singular Apothecaries within this Our Realme of England, or the Dominions thereof, that they and every of them, immediately after the said Pharmacopoea Londinensis shall bee printed and published, doe not compound or make any medicine or medicable receipt, or prescription, or distill any oyle, or Waters, or other extractions, that are or shall bee in the said Pharmacopoea Londinensis mentioned and named after the wayes or meanes prescribed or directed, by any other booke or dispensatories whatsoever, but after the onely manner and forme, that is or shall bee directed, prescribed and set downe by the sayd booke, and according to the weights or measures, that are or shall bee therein limited, and not otherwise, except it shall bee by the speciall direction or prescription of some learned Physitian in that behalf.

And further, Our expresse will and pleasure is, and wee doe hereby straitly charge and command that no person of any Art or Profession, other then Apothecaries and such as are or shall bee free of the saide Company, shall put to sale any Physicall composition prescribed in the said Booke, nor any other Medicine within Our said City of London or seven miles compass thereof, upon paine of Our high displeasure, and to incurre such penalties and punishment as may bee inflicted upon offenders hereof, for their contempt or neglect of this Our Royall Commandement, whereof in a case of this nature wee shall bee very sensible: Willing and Commanding also hereby all Maiors, Sheriffes, Justices of Peace, Constables, Wapstaves, Headboroughs and other Our Officers and Ministers, to bee ayding and furthering to those whom it doeth concerne in the due execution of this Our Royall pleasure and Commandement, as they will answer the contrary at their uttermost perils.

Given at Our Pallace of White-hall the sixe and twentieth day of April, in the sixteenth yeere of Our Reigne of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the one and fiftieth.

God save the King.

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ANNO M. DC. XVIII.