

CHARLES

I.

1625.

*Secretary Conway to the Duke of Buckingham.*

Gracious Patron,

Dec. 16.

THE contentment I had to see you was so short (the most just cause drawing you from Court), as I long to hear how you do, and how well you enjoy the greatest happiness of restoring comfort to the best wife and best of women, and taking to yourself the great blessing of blessed children, and then to repeat to you my daily morning prayer. The Lord of heaven increase you in those comforts, and increase in yourselves, and derive them from you, to your posterity infinite ages. And this humble duty of mine, is the first cause of sending this messenger my servant. Withal I take the boldness to address this letter directed to your Grace out of France, and that sent to me with it, upon which you will find two notes of his Majesty's upon the margin; and his notes I would communicate to none living but your Grace, how slight soever they should be, without his leave or commandment.

I have prepared instructions for Sir Edward Barrett; so soon as they are legibly written, I will send them to be approved, or reformed by your Grace.

By a copy herewith sent, your Grace will see what directions his Majesty hath given, and to whom, concerning his coronation.

There hath not been any thing of importance debated since your going from Hampton Court, saving whether letters should be written to the Lords, to lend money by way of Privy Seal, which was usually after the loan of the inferior ranks. And it is referred to be decided by the Lord Treasurer, Lord Chamberlain, Earl of Carlisle, and Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.

His Majesty's pleasure is, that letters should presently go forth to every Earl and Bishop for 200 l. and to every Baron for 100 l. because