

PROCLAMATION OF DUNGANNON

This text originates from Ireland In The Seventeenth Century by Mary Hickson (1821-1899), published 1884.

The Proclamation (which was the joint work of O'Neill and Rory Maguire, not Con Magennis), with the copy of the Commission annexed, will be found in the Armagh Book of Depositions, Trinity College, Dublin. These were evidently the copies produced on the trial of Sir Phelim before the High Court of Justice in 1652/1653: -

FROM OUR CAMP AT NEWRY

PHELM O'NEILL; RORY MAGUIRE. To all Catholics of the Roman party both English and Irish in the kingdom of Ireland we wish all happiness, freedom of conscience, and victory over the English heretics, who for a long time have tyrannised over our bodies and usurped by extortion our estates. Be it hereby made known unto you, all our friends and countrymen, that the king's most excellent majesty, for many great and urgent causes him thereunto moving, imposing trust and confidence in our fidelity, hath signified unto us, by his commission under the great seal of Scotland, bearing date at Edinburgh, the 1st day of this inst. October, 1641, and also by letters under his sign manual, bearing date with the said commission, of divers great and heinous affronts, that the English Protestants, especially the English Parliament, have published against his royal prerogative, and also against his Catholic friends, within the kingdom of England, the copy of which commission we herewith send unto you, to be published

with all speed in all parts of this kingdom, that you may be assured of our sufficient warrant and authority therein.

THE COMMISSION.

CHARLES, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., to all Catholic subjects within the kingdom of Ireland, Greeting: Know ye, that We, for the safeguard and preservation of Our person, have been enforced to make our abode and residence in the kingdom of Scotland for a long season, occasioned by reason of the obstinate and disobedient carriage of the Parliament of England against Us: that hath not only presumed to take upon them the government and disposition of those princely rights and prerogatives, that have justly descended upon Us from Our predecessors, being kings and queens of the said kingdom for many hundred years past, but also have possessed themselves of the whole strength of the said kingdom, in appointing governors, commanders and officers in all places therein, at their own will and pleasure, without Our consent, whereby We are deprived of Our sovereignty and are left naked without defence. And forasmuch as We are in Ourselves very sensible, that these storms blow aloft and are very likely to be carried by the vehemency of the Protestant party of the kingdom of Ireland, and endanger Our Regal power and authority there also; Know Ye, that We, reposing much care and trust in your duty and obedience, which We have for many years past found, do hereby give unto you full power and authority to assemble and meet together with all the speed and diligence, that business of so great a consequence doth require, and to advise and consult together by sufficient and discreet numbers at all times, days, and places, which you shall in your judgment hold most convenient, and most for the ordering, settling and effecting the

great work (illegible) and directed to you in Our letters, and to use all politic means and ways possible to possess yourselves for (illegible) and safety of all the forts, castles and places, of strength and defence within the kingdom, except the places, persons and estates of Our loyal and loving subjects the Scots; also to arrest and seize the goods, estates and persons of all the English Protestants, within the said kingdom to Our use. And in your care and speedy performance of this Our will and pleasure We shall rely on your wonted duty and allegiance to Us which We shall accept and reward in due time. Witness Ourselves at Edinburgh this 1st day of October in the seventeenth year of Our reign.