

# British documents against Catholicism collection, 1673-1689

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-4166

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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** British documents against Catholicism collection, 1673-1689  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 135  
**Extent:** 0.5 cubic feet (1 oversize box)  
**Abstract:** Contains five broadsides of proclamations issued by Charles II, votes from the House of Commons, and other anti-Catholic broadsides.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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## Administrative Information

### Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], British documents against Catholicism collection, MSS 135, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

### Processing

Processed by Jim Cooper, 1994; and Nancy Watkins, 1996.

Processed from Accession No. 95-020, 95-022, 95-023, 95-024, 95-025, 95-026, and 95-027.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

In 1670, King Louis XIV of France entered into an agreement with England's Charles II, known as the Treaty of Dover. Under the public terms of this treaty, England and France would join together in a war against the Netherlands. Secretly, Charles declared that he would accept the Catholic religion at some time in the future. In return Louis offered him troops and money. In 1672, before the war began, Charles issued a Declaration of Indulgence, which suspended the penal laws against Catholics and non-conformists. The Commons resented this arbitrary use of

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power, and refused to vote funds for the war until the Indulgence was withdrawn. Parliament then passed the Test Act, which required that all Crown officials - military and civil - take the Anglican Sacrament and make a declaration against transubstantiation. This legislation effectively removed all Catholics from the administration.

By 1678, England was in an atmosphere of panic and suspicion. The realm was shocked by the revelations by two disreputable informers, Titus Oates and Israel Tonge, of a Jesuit plot to assassinate Charles II and place James, his Catholic brother, on the throne. As a result of these false accusations, a wave of anti-catholic sentiment and legislation swept across the land.

### **Scope and Content Note**

This collection consists of broadsides of proclamations issued by Charles II ordering the suppression of Catholicism in England by forbidding Catholics to practice their religion, bear firearms, or gain access to London, Westminster, and the surrounding areas. One of the proclamations orders the suppression of the Catholic clergy in England with the notable exception of John Huddleston. This collection also consists of broadsides of anti-Catholic legislations issued by the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The miscellaneous items include a broadside of a speech made by the Earl of Essex at the petition to the King, as well as a broadside entitled "Loyal Subjects Littany."

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Charles II of England. A Proclamation for Suppression of Popery, 1673 November 20
1	1	Charles II of England. A Proclamation for the Discovery and Apprehending all Popish Priests and Jesuits, 1678 November 20
1	1	Charles II of England. A Proclamation for Disarming and Securing of Popish Recusants, 1678 December 20
1	1	Charles II of England. A Proclamation Commanding all Papists, or reputed Papists, forthwith to depart from the Cities of London and Westminster, and from within Ten Miles of the same, 1679 December 3
1	1	Charles II of England. A Proclamation for Incouragement of the further Discovery of the Popish Plot, 1680 October 30
1	2	John Browne, Cleric Parliamentor. Broadside restricting access to London and Westminster, 1679 April 23
1	2	John Browne, Cleric Parliamentor. Broadside declaring void any licenses granted to Papists, 1679 May 5
1	2	John Browne, Cleric Parliamentor. Broadside ordering Papists to vacate the cities of London and Westminster, 1680 December 3
1	2	John Browne, Cleric Parliamentor. Broadside forbidding access of Papists to Westminster during the session of Paliament, 1689 June 15
1	3	Thomas Dolman. Broadside noting reward of ten pounds paid to persons who discover papists, 1679 December 19
1	3	The Loyal Subjects Littany, 1680
1	3	Arthur Capell, Earl of Essex. Speech at the Delivery of the Petition to the King, 1680 January 25 [printed 1681]
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 1
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 2
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 3
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 6
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 10
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 11
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 12
1	4	Votes of the House of Commons, 1680 November 13

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