

Sovereign denied entry



The one person never allowed into the House of Commons, even as a visitor, is Britain's sovereign

King Charles I was the last monarch to gain entry, in 1642, because he wanted to arrest five MPs who had opposed him. The Speaker of the day protected them by saying, *May it please Your Majesty, I have neither eyes to see nor tongue to speak in this place, but as the House is pleased to direct me, whose servant I am here.* Since then, kings and queens have been barred and perform the state opening of Parliament from the **House of Lords**