



Bodleian Libraries

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

This book is part of the collection held by the Bodleian Libraries and scanned by Google, Inc. for the Google Books Library Project.

For more information see:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/dbooks>



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0) licence.

THE EVIDENT (5)
APPROACH
OF A
WAR;

And Something of
The NECESSITY of It,
In Order to
Establish PEACE, and *Preserve* TRADE.

Pax Queritur Bello.

To which is Added, //
An Exact PLAN and DESCRIPTION
of the BAY and CITY of
GIBRALTAR.

L O N D O N :

Printed ; And Sold by J. ROBERTS in *Warwick-Lane* ; and
A. DODD in the *Strand*. 1727.
[Price 1s. 6d.]



T H E
P R E F A C E.

THREE Things in this Work seem to call for a Word or two of Preface; but I shall be very Brief.

1. The Unreasonableness of our Impatience to know the Certainty of things before our Governors thought fit to explain them, call'd aloud for some Reproof.

2. The Apprehensions some People were under, or pretended to be under, for our Publick Credit, and for our Commerce in case of a War, Neither of which seem to be in the least Danger, call'd (as loud) for ditto.

3. The Officious Entring upon this Subject, tho' ever so well intended, seems to call for some Apology.

The Author thinks the two first are sufficiently defended in the Manner of reproving them, and adds nothing to it for that Reason;

The P R E F A C E.

Reason; and for the Last, as he has taken all possible Care to give no Offence, and that the whole Tenour of the Work is evidently calculated for the Honour, Interest, and Service of His Majesty, and the whole British Nation, and perfectly abstracted from all private Views or Desires, He humbly hopes, no Slip of the Pen, if such should be, tho' he has with the utmost Care guarded against that also, shall be misconstrued to his Prejudice.

THE

T H E

Evident Approach of a WAR, &c.

C H A P. I.

A short Introduction; with a Remark upon the Impatience of some People to know before-hand whether we shall have Peace or War. The Reason of their uneasy Haste; and something of Who the People are. Also an Enquiry whether our Stocks and Publick Credit should not Rise, rather than Fall, upon the Prospect of a War.

WHEN all the Politicians of the Town are consulting their Oracles upon this Important Subject, and that the first Question in all Conversation is, *Peace or War?* I hope if I may not give my own Opinion, I may be a little merry with those that do.

Indeed, if we go to the Merit of the Case, I cannot see why every *British* Freeholder may not claim a Right to talk of it, and enquire a little into it, modestly, and as becomes them; since in most Cases that I meet with, if any Body has a Right to enquire into the Rate of a Thing, 'tis those who pay for it.

War and Peace in *Great Britain*, are, notwithstanding all our Privileges, in the Breast of the King; 'tis a Branch of the Prerogative; no Body disputes it; and I suppose 'tis the Prerogative of most of the Kings of *Europe* also, and so 'tis meet it should be.

Let the Kings (Name a' God) make a War or a Peace,

Let 'em Fight, or give o'er, as their Majesties please.

Let's be anxious no more, whatever's our Doom;

Tho' we Fight all the World, let's be Easy at Home.

Leaving then the Superficials for the Superficial to refine upon, let us see what it is the Town is so restless about. For my Part, I don't see the People I speak of, half so much concern'd about the Thing it self, as about their not knowing it *before-hand*; a certain Hint of their Meaning; which is, in a Word, that they want to make a Bubble of it, and that be-

fore it begins too. Who may be bubbled by it when it comes, is a Question by it self.

And how unaccountable is this Impatience among us? Why cannot the Town be easy, and let things go on in the ordinary Course? If a War is for our Advantage, 'twill be good News when it comes; if not, bad News comes fast enough. Let us have Patience; we must hear of it in the End, or Taxes must be lighter than usual in like Cases.

But there is a Figure in all this Speech; More intended than is express'd: How happens it else that those People are most concerned to be at a Certainty about a War, who are like to have the least Hand in it when it comes? *Latet anguis in herba.*

If a War was just now Declared, the People who are thus eager with their Enquiries, may appear to have no manner of Concern in it, one way or other. *They are always most busy who have least to do.*

In a Word, the present Haste we are in to know what shall be, is not a meer Curiosity and Impatience, but 'tis a Bite; they want to be the first in the Secret, and to know it before their Neighbours, for Uses and Purposes; and these Uses and Purposes are worth our Inquiry after.

Some are of Opinion, and I among the rest, that the Curiosity of the Times should not be satisfy'd; and that much is to be learnt, tho' perhaps not so much to be got, by the State of Uncertainty Men are in at this Time: At least this is to be learnt, that People *within Doors* see what Fools we are *without Doors*, to think we understand them.

Statesmen always gain by being secret: If they have nothing at all upon the Anvil, say nothing, or mean nothing when they speak, they always pass for Politicians when they are Private; and we will have it that they are wise Men when they are doing nothing, tho' it be only because they have nothing to do.

But why are we *without Doors* so impatient to know what perhaps no Body here can tell us? and why do we not enquire where it is to be known? Is this the Place for the Question to be started in? Or is *Madrid* and *Vienna* the proper Center of the Intelligence?

Who do we ask? And why do we talk of it here? 'Tis plain his Majesty has resolv'd, if possible, to preserve the Peace. If 'tis to be a War, I think you should ask the King of *Spain*, the Emperor, the *Czarina*, and those Heroes of War the *Poles*, who talk of Fighting as if the World durst not look them in the Face. Happy! *Strangely Happy!* is this Age, that the only Nations that seem eager for a War, are those that are
least

least able to carry it on; and those that seem forwardest for Fighting, are those that when they come to it, have been always forwardest to run away.

To hear the *Spaniards* talk of fitting out Ships of War, and the *Poles* of raising Armies! I must confess, if I were to speak freely upon the Subject, and any Man who I thought worth an Answer should ask me Whether we should have a War with these *Spaniards* and *Muscovites*? I should answer, *some little Articles excepted*, I am afraid not.

To hear the *Poles* threaten the King of *Prussia*; talk of his doing Homage to them for Part of his Country; reject the Memorials of the Protestants, and order their Troops (their In-vincible Poltroons) to march to the Frontiers; methinks 'tis of a Piece with the Orders of their late Dyet, to dispose of two Millions of *Polish* Florins, when 'tis said they have but 40000 in their Exchequer.

Then, as I said, to hear the *Spaniard* talk of fitting out 50 Ships of War, when all *Spain* is not able to furnish 3000 Seamen; to hear of their furnishing the Emperor with three Millions *per Ann.* by way of Subsidy, when they can't bring home their Plate Fleet from Abroad, for fear of eight Men of War, and can hardly borrow 200000 Crowns in all their Seven Kingdoms at Home; These are merry Things it must be allow'd, and fit for little else, in my Opinion, but to be laugh'd at.

To hear from the *Baltick*, that the *Czarina* has order'd her Fleet to be fitted out Early in the Spring, when she has lately let us see, that if 20 *English* Men of War appear, they dare not look abroad: And then, for fitting them out EARLY, that's another Jest too, as if they could get out before we could get in; or that they could Sail over the Ice, and put to Sea when their Ports are frozen up. For my Part, I can hardly believe they talk so at *Petersburgh*; I think they can never be so silly. I am rather of Opinion our News-mongers make it for them; just as they did the other Day the *French* laying up great Magazines at *Luxemburgh*, which is a City in the Hands of the Emperor, one of the Barrier Towns. The *Muscovites* can no more come out into the Ocean without our Leave, or without fighting our Fleet, and beating it too, than their Ships can fly over the Mountains. If they design such things as are talk'd of, and to come into the Ocean with a Fleet, they must change the Scene of their Marine Affairs, and go and build Men of War at *Arch-Angel* or in *Nova Zembla*, and then they may indeed go to Sea without Interruption; but 'till they do that, they may cease concerning themselves in the Na-

val Affairs of *Europe*; and if they do it, they will be little more than laugh'd at.

These are the terrible People to whom we should go with our Important Question, and of whom we should so submissively ask whether they please to give *Peace* or *War* to the so much weaker Kings of *France* and *Great Britain*. *Why should we not ask of them that know?*

It is true, they are scarce worth our Notice in the Case before us; and that, in my Opinion, makes the Question about *Peace* and *War* the less Important; and our Impatience about it seems the more Enigmatick. What mighty Haste are we in? and what great Strefs do we lay upon a War with such People, as (Heaven knows) are hardly worth the Question; and who, as the *Turks* said once to the *Muscovites*, *hardly knew how to make War, and were not worth making Peace with.*

But to bring all this home to our Selves, and look into the Inside of Things with our Eyes open, and the Mists of Art cleared a little up; and so talk something gravely to it: If the Enemies which we are like to have upon our Hands, *supposing a War*, are such as I have hinted at, Why all this Concern about *Peace* or *War* with them? Why so anxious to know things before-hand? Why so much Noise about nothing! There must be more in it of one Kind, if there is not of another; it cannot be all meer Curiosity, meer *Athenianism*; an Enquiry for meer Tittle Tattle, and for the Pleasure of a Tale.

The Case is plain, all this Part is of a mean and scandalous Original, hardly worth naming; 'tis the *ALLY*, and the *JOBBER S*, that make the greatest Part of the Noise; and they want to be answered, only that they may know how to *Put* and *Refuse*, how to *Sell out* or *Buy in*, and to make a Bubble of the War before it begins.

Now as this is in it self a Trifle not worth spending two Words about, much less to ground such a Clamour upon; a thing below Reproof, too mean for Satyr, has neither Jest or Earnest in it, and circulates between the *F---s* and the *K---s* only; beginning and ending within and among themselves; so I had not dirty'd my Fingers with it here, only to introduce a Superior Enquiry with it, and which may be of some Use to us to speak of upon this Occasion, and some others also that may follow.

This more significant Enquiry is as follows:

“ Why should the Certainty of a War or of a Peace influence the Price of our Stocks, that is to say, the Publick Credit, one way or other? ”

'Tis

'Tis indeed for the sake of this Question that I mention these People, and begin my Discourſe with what would o-therwiſe look ſo trifling. I muſt confeſs, if the Question was put another way, I could give a more direct Answer to it, and ſupport that Answer with better Reaſons: *I mean thus*; If the Question was, Whether the Certainty of a Peace or War ought to influence the Publick Credit, and the Price of Stocks, one way or other: I ſay, if this was the Question, I ſhould, without the leaſt Heſitation, answer in the *Negative*; it ought not any way to affect the Credit or the Funds, no, not in the leaſt; and 'tis unaccountably fooliſh that it ſhould be otherwiſe.

If I ſhould incline to give it one way or other, and ſay which way ſhould the Publick Credit be moſt affected, I ſhould answer, That a War ſhould make Stocks riſe, not ſink them; and I ſhould value my ſelf much more upon my little Intereſt among them, in Caſe of a War, than in View of a Peace; and I may come to give you my Reaſons for this alſo, in their Place.

It is true, it paſſ'd for a Maxim of War in the Time of *Julius Caſar*, Never to deſpiſe an Enemy; but 'tis as good a Maxim, tho' not ſo Antient, Not to *Over-rate* an Enemy. *He that is afraid before he fights, will be ſure to be beaten.*

To run down our Eſtates, ſink the Value of our Funds, Sell out in a Hurry, and abate the Publick Credit becauſe of a War, and ſuch a War as this too! What is it but Fear? nay, 'tis worſe, 'tis a Fright; and without Deſpiſing our Enemy (that may be) 'tis Rating him much too high. As *Spain* is not ſo Inconſiderable as not to be worth our Preparations, ſo I am ſure it is not ſo Conſiderable as to be worth our Apprehenſions; their Power ſeems but to make the War half a Jeſt, and ſure their Threatnings and Swagger ought to be far from turning it into Earneſt.

I cannot but think there is ſome Similitude between the *Spaniards* talking of a War, and their late Prohibition of our Manufactures; they prepare for War without Money, and they prohibit Trade without Clothes.

The King of *Spain*, they tell us, forbids his People to wear any of the Manufactures of Wool or Silk, made in other Countries; and yet 'tis plain they can make none of their own; ſo that 'tis a kind of a Proclamation for the People to go naked.

Let them take away the Manufactures of *England*, *France*, and the Seventeen Provinces, and tell us, if they can, what their People muſt wear? the poor *Spaniards* may indeed be careful,
not-

notwithstanding the Scripture Prohibition, about *wherewithal they shall be clothed*. Not the Priests have a Cassock, not the Nuns a Veil, not the Gentlemen a Cloak, or the Ladies a Robe, I might have said a Smock, but what are made of some foreign Manufacture. They have not one Manufacture or Material to make it of, in the whole Dominion, which we now call *Spain*, that can amount to the cloathing of the Inhabitants of one Province, nay hardly of one City.

They have Wool indeed, but by it self 'tis too soft, too fine, and too tender to work, nor will it make any Manufacture of Value, unless they could get Wool of a coarser kind to mix with it. They have a little Silk, but no Quantity. They have neither Hemp or Flax. In a Word, they prohibit the Commerce just as they seem to make War, to show their Teeth, or rather to show that they have no Teeth. As they have no Manufactures to substitute in the room of those they prohibit, so they have no Ships to defend the Trade they would exclude us from.

Never Nation went to War in the Circumstances which the *Spaniards* must now, if they do make a War of it; and that makes me think sometimes they are not in earnest, that it is all Grimace, and a kind of *Quixotisme*; For the *Spaniards*, take them abstracted from their particular Resentments, were always reckoned a wise considering Nation. They have made War in former Ages, and sometimes with Success; as under those truly Great Princes, the Emperor *Charles V*, and *Philip II*; and since that in Confederacy with some or other of the Powers of *Europe* that were in Condition to support them at Sea: and we may say there was some Sense in that Part; because their Weakness at Sea being supported, they in some measure could preserve their *American* Correspondence, receive Supplies of Treasure by their Plate Fleets, and could have the Support of Troops, if wanted, either by Land or by Sea; as was their Case in their late Wars against *France*; and afterwards against the present Emperor, when they were supported by *France*.

In the First, the Confederates guarded their Flota's, and convoyed their Ships by Sea; in the Second, the *French* marched powerful Armies to their Assistance by Land; and yet in both those Wars, *Spain* suffered sometimes prodigious Losses; as in the First by the *French*, in *America*, when *Monfieur Pointy* took *Cartagena*; and in the Last, by the *English* at *Vigo*, and the like.

But now they have not an Allie that can help them by Land, or by Sea; no not one: and yet they want to make a War! 'Tis answered, the Emperor is their Allie, and his Armies
are

are powerful, his Troops good, his Generals the best of the Age (that is to say, being interpreted, *some of the best*) and that he will support them with all his Forces.

As to the Imperial Support, we shall have room to speak of it when we come to see how well the Emperor will support himself and his own Country; but for the present, as it relates to *Spain*, I may take notice, that perhaps the Emperor might support, or at least assist the *Spaniards*, if he knew how to come at them; but which way will that be done? and upon what Foundation does the Emperor propose to do it, or the *Spaniards* to expect it?

By Land it is impracticable, unless the Imperial Troops appointed for it could first fight their way from *Italy* or *Alsatia*, thro' the Heart of *France*, and so enter *Spain*, by Land; for by Sea they cannot pretend to it; the *British* and *Dutch*, and perhaps *French* Squadrons lying directly in the Way to intercept them.

At present *Spain* is surrounded on every Side by Land, way-laid on every Side by Sea, they can neither be succoured by Troops from their Friends, or supplied with Money from their own Dominions; and yet these are the People of whom we must enquire whether we shall have War or Peace; and with whom if we have a War, our Bubble-makers pretend, the Stocks must fall, and the publick Funds sink in their Value! What Reasons they can give for it, I must confess I am at a Loss to find.

It is true there are Facts and Events which frequently offer to our View, of which we can only say *they are*, not why or for what Reason they exist; as some *Phænomena* appear in the Heavens which are strange and unaccountable, and of which our best Astronomers can say *they are*, rather than give any Account from whence or by what Powers in Nature they exist; what their Motions and Revolutions are, or how performed; such as Comets, surprising Meteors, Balls of Fire, and other Appearances in the Air.

There must be some *Ænigma*, some *Arcana*, in the Councils of that part of the World, and they must have some Dependances which we can see no room for, and can make no probable Guesses at; or else the *Spaniards* seem to be the most void of Council, or their Council (such as they are) the most void of Sense, of any People now acting as a Nation, and in the Capacity of a Monarchy, in the World. I know nothing can be more wonderful in the Course of all the Politicks of *Europe* than their present Conduct; nor in my Opinion can a greater Prodigy happen in the World, unless it should be to see them
come

come well off at last, which I would not Insure under 100 per Cent.

These things, and the abundant Patience of His Majesty and the *British* Government, waiting the utmost Length of Time, trying all pacifick Measures, and offering beyond what the *Spaniards* have the least Reason to expect, in order to prevail with them not to run into a War which they are in no Condition to carry on: I say, these are the only Reasons that would persuade me to think still that it would not be a War: my Meaning is, I cannot think the *Spaniards* are so entirely abandon'd, so given up to their Piques and personal Resentments, so blind against their own Interest and Safety, so infatuated and resolved for their own Ruin, as to run headlong into a War, which in all human Probability must issue in their Loss, if not in the utter Destruction of their Interest, and perhaps of their very Government: of which I shall say more in its order.

And is this the War that must sink our Stocks! Will any Man Sell out, as they call it, for the Apprehensions of such a War as this! Let the *Bear-skin Men* that build upon that Prospect, depend upon it, that whatever Use they make of the Word *War*, which I know is a formidable Word, and is of late made, as we call it, a Term of Art in their way, to run down the Price of things, and make their Game of among themselves; yet upon the whole, it will go but a little way, and they themselves will buy their own Stock up again in a very few Days, after they have Bubbled it out in a Fright without ground.

The many frequent Occasions in which those People have been thus taken in their own Snares, are not worth our Notice, tho' they are very well worth theirs, that they may learn to be wiser: The Stocks which fall by this Art will never lie there, but will certainly advance with the greater Reflux, as soon as the first Judgment of such a War is pass'd; and not to make the *Spaniards* seem meaner and more despicable than they are, the little Reason there can be to lay any Stress upon their Part of the War, or to raise any Pannicks among us from the Prospect of it, the more ashamed these People will be of having sunk the Rate of things upon that Occasion.

It seems, if this Matter was examined, that the Gentlemen who are now so impatient to have this secret Intelligence, put much more Weight upon themselves than the World may think fit to put upon them; believing that as they please to Rate their Stocks, so the rest of the World should Rate the War.

War

War is a terrible Word, and were it circumstanced in any manner but as this with *Spain* seems to be, there might be something of Foundation for it; But Reason dictates that we should distinguish according to the particular People we are to engage with. Now if any good Politician will tell us what Nation in the World it could be wish'd we should differ with rather than *Spain*; then I'll allow they might suggest a Fall of Stocks upon the Rupture.

But where is the Nation of the World that we can get more by, and are likely to lose less by, in case of a War? In how many Places in the World are they expos'd even to our Adventurers and Letter-of-Mart Men, where they cannot defend themselves against five hundred Men, and yet have immense Riches to lose? How easie is it, not only to insult their *West-India* Colonies, but even to dispossess them; and to take from them the immense Riches of *Mexico* and *Peru*?

This adds to our Wonder in behalf of the *Spaniards*, makes the Infatuation appear the more gross, and seems to be still a Reason why we should think there can be no War; that is to say, that I think the *Spaniards* can never carry on the Jest so far. People in their Senses never run great Hazards, where they have much to lose; and as we know His Majesty has taken all the wise Measures to preserve Peace, we cannot suppose the *Spaniards* can come into a War, unless they are fallen under some National Infatuation.

For a Nation to quarrel that are not able to fight, to make a War when they are sure to lose by it, and have so much to lose too, is a Token of insufferable Stupidity.

For this Reason I would close the Account thus, *viz.* No War, unless the *Spaniards* are mad; 'tis next to impossible. The *Spaniards* can never come into a War without a Blast upon their politick Sense and Understanding; and 'tis still more irrational to think, that a War with such a Nation can be any Foundation for the running down our Stocks and Funds, &c.

As to the Advantages of a War with *Spain*, and the good Terms on which it might, and probably may, be carried on by *Great Britain*, I shall take that into Consideration by it self, when the Wisdom of the *Spaniards*, and of their present Conduct, may be farther illustrated as it deserves.

C H A P. II.

That Some may be allowed to enquire, and should, if possible, be informed of the Approach of a War before it is begun; and that it is just in a Government to give them as much Information as they conveniently can.

HAVING thus touch'd gently the Grounds and Reasons of our present Impatience about Peace and War, and how far some People make a Bubble of the Enquiry, as they would do afterwards of the Discovery, and of the Thing itself; I must add, that after all, and abstracting the Thing from those jobbing Designs, which we must acknowledge are mean and low-priz'd enough, yet there are some People in the World who are justly concern'd to enquire, and anxious to know too, what will be the Issue of these things; and this upon a better Account, and who have very honest Reasons for their Enquiries; and it is on their Account that these Sheets are made publick.

1. *The Merchants abroad* are concerned to make a Judgment of things: Many of these being settled in the Ports and Dominions of such Princes and Powers as may be or are like to be Enemies in case of a Rupture, 'tis of Importance to them to have as early an Account of things as they can; that they may secure their Persons and Effects in time from the Violences frequently made use of on such Occasions; and this may be one Reason why our Letters from *Spain* and *Italy* and other Parts of the World are full of importuning Enquiries about it.

2. *The Insurers*, who are far from being an inconsiderable Body among the Merchants at home, have Reason to be concerned in the Enquiry; for that being to under-write Policies which are of very great Value, and insure upon Ships and Cargoes going long Voyages, 'tis of the last Importance to them to know what Risque they may run, in order to know what Premio's to take, suited to the Times that are to come.

As things may happen, many Ships may go out in Peace and come back in War; or they may go out in Peace, and a War break out before they arrive at the Port they are insured to; so that the Insurer knows not what Hazard he runs, or how to suit his Demand; nor does the Insured know what Premio to give, any more than the other knows what to ask.

Trade

Trade should not be embarrassed with Uncertainties, or with unforeseen Hazards. The Merchant has in all Ages been much the Care of wise and just Governors; they are a useful and valuable Part of the Common-wealth, and their Interest should be regarded on all Occasions: The Welfare of the Community very much depends upon the Safety of the Merchants and of their Effects: By them the People are employed, the Navigation encouraged, Numbers of Sailors maintained and bred up, the Revenue encreased, and the great Article of Commerce carried on and continued in this Kingdom.

They that venture their Estates and Persons abroad, that establish Factories, settle Houses, and give Commissions for buying and selling in foreign Parts, should not be kept in Ignorance and in the Dark, 'till the very last Moment of a Rupture. The Government will not leave them to the Mercy of the Enemies, betray them into the hands of Violence; or give them up at least without a due Concern for them, and without giving them time to shift for themselves, to secure their Effects, and to avoid the impending Storm.

3. In like case the *Merchants at home* shipping off daily large Quantities of Goods for foreign Parts, it would look particularly unkind to expose them to ingulph themselves and their Fortunes in the publick Resentment, if it may be avoided; leaving them to push on their Trade in Security, under the Protection of Peace, while a War is in the very Embrio, and as it were just breaking out; in which case they would often find themselves on the sudden surprized, their Estates confiscated and seized upon, and their Factors abroad ruined and undone.

It has been usual for Governments to give their Merchants private Hints in such Cases, not only not to run farther Hazards, not to launch out by continuing to ship off farther and greater Stocks of Goods, but to take care in time of the Effects they have already abroad; to dispose and secure them, that they may not be exposed to the Enemies; and when a Government does not do so, 'tis reasonable to conclude there is really no Danger.

4. *Masters and Owners of Ships* are concerned and may justly be anxious to know whether Peace or War is in the View of the State they live under, that they may man and arm their Ships in proportion to the Circumstances of things; otherwise if they go out weak, and a War breaks out, they are made a Prey to Rovers and Privateers; if they go out strong, and the Peace continues, they are at a needless Expence in

hiring more Men than they want, and laying in greater Stores than they have Occasion for; all which eats into, or rather eats out, the Profits of the Voyage.

5. The *very Seamen themselves* are justly concern'd in the Enquiry; for as, in all such Cases, the Rate of Seamens Wages bears a Proportion to the Risques they run, and to the Dangers they may fall into; so 'tis a Wrong to the poor Men to ship themselves at the ordinary Wages, if a War is at hand; and 'tis a Wrong to Trade to be obliged to pay advanced Wages, and consequently Advance of Freight for Goods, in view of a War, if no War is intended.

6. *Tradesmen at home* are concern'd to know, whether there is likely to be Peace or War, that they may know what and when to buy or sell, when to lay in Stocks and Stores of Goods, and when not: If a War be in View, 'tis the Tradesman's Business to store himself with such Goods as are Imported from Abroad before the Price advances, before the Hazards of War make them uncertain in their Arriving, and as well in Time as in Quantity. The *Vintner* lays in a Stock of Wines, and buys freely, that he may not be forc'd to buy in a Scarcity; the *Dyer* lays in a Stock of Cochineal and Indigo, Gauls and Gums, that he may work as cheap as before, if possible, and his Merchants not go from him to another; the Country *Clothier*, if he hears of a War, lays in a Stock of Oil for his Carders and Combers, and of *Spanish* Wool for his fine Clothes; that if a War happens, he may not be out of Goods for the carrying on his Business, and be forc'd to buy Dearer than his Neighbours.

Again; if these Tradesmen buy, if they lay in a Stock of Goods with a prospect of War, and no War happens; if the Seller uses Art to deceive them, and perswade them that there will be a War, (*as is often done*) and no War follows: I say, these Tradesmen are hurt extremely, they are clog'd with Goods, run out Stocks, got deep into Debt, and the Rate of their own Goods not at all raised; so that they are irreparably weaken'd by the Disappointment, and sometimes ruin'd.

These things, with many of the like, justify the Enquiries of the Men of Business (especially) into the Posture of publick Affairs, and whether they are likely to issue in Peace or War; and it is in Consideration of these that I enter thus into the Enquiry. As for our Friends of the *Jobbing* Business, they are a Nation by themselves, and we have nothing to do with them in the Case; nor are they otherwise worth taking notice of, except as before.

Since

Since then there are some People to whom it is reasonable we should give as much Light into things as we can, Consistent with the Publick Interest; let us for their Sakes enquire a little how things stand in the World, and what we may reasonably expect, as well from the face of things abroad, as at home. Perhaps they may take some Light from our Enquiries, which they would not have before.

As things now present themselves to our View, there seems to be more rational Guesses to be made, and a better Judgment to be form'd from Abroad, than from at Home; at least as far as we may judge from the Outsides and Appearances of Publick Affairs, and as far as we are allow'd to search into them, and pass our Judgment upon them.

'Tis evident the Councils of *Great Britain* tend to Peace, if to be obtain'd with just and honourable Conditions: Peace, if attended with the good Understanding of Princes, and an agreeable Regard to the Treaties and Engagements already entered into, and subsisting between the Nations, to the Advantage of all Sides, and with Support of the Laws, Religion and Liberties of *Europe*.

The Government of *Great Britain* quarrels with no body; we desire no War, so that our Neighbours are not oppress'd, our Commerce invaded, new Trades and Correspondencies opened, which were formerly by evident and exclusive Stipulations clos'd and shut up. *Great Britain* is a Trading Nation, and trading Nations never covet War. Peace is a Friend of Commerce, and Trade flourishes under the Banner of the general Tranquility.

But the Government of *Great Britain*, nor of its Allies, who are generally trading Nations too, must not be insulted, must not be run down, much less their Commerce invaded and supplanted. Their Power is always exerted to protect their Trade; 'tis their Business to keep the Seas open, the Ports open, and all the Doors of Commerce open for their Merchants, and for their Ships; and, as I said before, if this cannot be done by peaceable and quiet Means, they must do it by Force, and so they are as ready for War as other People.

'Tis for this that these Nations keep up such a Military Force; such Fleets and such Armies to protect their Trade, to keep all the Back-doors open, to clear the Seas of Pyrates and Privateers, the Sea-Ports from Prohibitions and Reprisals, and to keep the Sea-Ports of all Nations free, and patent for their Ships, and for their Merchants; and if this be obstructed by Force, they must use Force to repel it; if this cannot be obtained without a War, a War must be expected, and to me seems to be unavoidable. Now

Now the Question before us in the present Case is very short; Do the combin'd Nations, who seem now to oppose the Treaty of *Hanover*, seek to invade the Commerce of *Great Britain*, or do they not? Do they seek to undermine and supplant us, or no? Do the *Ostend Company*, under the Imperial Eagle, invade our *East-India* Trade, or do they not? Do they fit our Ships for Parts, which by several Treaties and Agreements they are obliged not to do, and do not use to fit out Ships for? Do they trade to Places whither they ought not, even by Agreement, to Trade? and is this done by Force, and with Menaces of a Continuance of such Trade, and of resenting the least Opposition to it? If this be so, then I think no Man of Trade need to enquire whether we shall think fit to renew a War for the Recovery of the Trade, seeing the War is begun already by these Aggressions and Invasions.

All the Intervals of Peace which we seem to have had, were obtained by the Sword. The first War between *Holland* and *Spain*, which held forty Years, was closed by the Peace of *Munster*, in which the Rights of Commerce, as well as of Government, were all adjusted, settled and determin'd, and have remained so peaceably ever since, in most Parts on that side the World. If these Rights of Commerce are invaded, you need ask no Questions about it, the War is begun there. Besides this, the several Treaties with *Spain*, and between *Spain* and *France*, have generally adjusted the Commerce, as well as the Possession of the several Countries; and the settling of Trade has been to these Nations as Essential, as the settling of Peace, and was always made a Part of it.

The Conditions on which the *Netherlands* have been assigned to this or that Prince, have been always settled and adjusted by the several Powers, with suitable Reserves to Trade, such as serv'd for a Guarantee of the Commerce on either Hand: By these Treaties such and such Prohibitions have been taken off and laid on, by which the Interests of Trade on either of their Boundaries have been preserv'd and taken care of.

If the Faith of Treaties is to be preserv'd inviolable in Matters of Peace and War, in Matters of Government and Dominion, in the Rights of Possession, and the Claims of Sovereignty, and not in Matters of Trade; why are the Affairs of Commerce, and the free Intercourse of the Subjects one with another, mention'd in these Treaties? Why are the Liberties and Restrictions of Trade stipulated among other things in those Treaties? They are not Articles made on purpose to be broken;

broken; there is no Reserve made against them, no Exception; 'tis no where said that the Breach of those Clauses shall not be taken for a Breach of the Peace.

On the contrary, those Articles of Commerce have all along been looked upon as Essential to the good Understanding between those reconciled Nations as any of the rest, and the Breach of them is generally one of the first things complained of.

Upon this Foot then I take the Liberty to say the War is begun already; for the Enemy have invaded us, and refused to put a stop to their Invasions. I am told that the *Spaniards* and the *Muscovites* both complain of the *British* Nation's being Aggressors; and that blocking up their Fleets, whether for War or Trade, is an actual Invasion, that lying before their Ports is an act of Hostility, and that in a word the War is begun on this Side.

I am not to enter into a Justification of what they say, but I ballance it with this: Invasion of the Commerce is as much an act of Hostility, strictly, as Invasion of the Land; the Liberties and exclusive Rights of Trade being as much a Part of the Peace, as a Cessation of Hostilities; and if our Trade be invaded contrary to express Stipulations, the Peace is broken. As for our Squadrons appearing ready to keep the Peace, where apparent Preparations are made to break it, it may be complain'd of, and they do make some Noise about it; but I cannot see how they can make that Part be called an Act of Hostility.

If the *British* Squadron lay off of *Revel*, or any where else on the *Russian* Coast, demanding an Answer to the Enquiries made concerning their Preparations for War, and that they would explain themselves upon the Subject of their fitting out a Fleet in time of profound Peace, it is no more than what has been usual in all Ages, when Princes and Powers make Preparations of War, while their Neighbours are all at Peace with them: For Example;

When the *Dutch* in a time of profound Peace fitted out a Fleet of sixty Men of War for the Expedition of the then Prince of *Orange* into *England*, the King of *France* ordered his Minister at the *Hague* to ask the Meaning of it, and to threaten the *States*, that if it was meant against the King of *England*, he (the King of *France*) should take it as a Declaration of War against himself.

Now if it be objected that this was done by an Ambassador, not by a Fleet; 'tis answer'd, The *French* King indeed had not a Fleet at that time, but he threatened them directly with

an immediate War, which was the same thing; and as soon as it appeared that the Design was against the King of *England*, he drew his Armies down to the Frontiers of *Holland*, and hovered about them, (the same thing as blocking up a Port) and at last took the Field publickly, and began an open War.

I might give a great many more Examples of the like, but this is sufficient. The Preparations for War made by the Court of *Petersburg*, their sitting out a Fleet, and drawing down an Army to the Coast, gave sufficient Reason to their Neighbours to ask the Meaning of it: And to what Purpose was an Enquiry at such a Distance, without a Force sufficient to act as Occasion should require, and as the Answer that was to be receiv'd should direct?

Had the Answer been Satisfactory, 'tis probable the *British* Squadron had return'd sooner; but as the Answer was not so Satisfactory, the Fleet continued there waiting the Event; and where's the act of Hostility in all this? I see nothing but what is usual in the ordinary Practice of Princes; much more was it necessary at this time on many Accounts, too long to enter upon here.

Nor is the Resentment which we hear of on the other Side, the least Discovery of the good Effect of those Measures. No doubt it was a Disappointment to the great Designs of the *Muscovite* Empress; put a stop to the Enterprizes just ripe to be begun, and has shut up all the secret Resolves of the *Russian* Cabinet; so that we know nothing of the Scheme they had laid, other than we are left to guess at by the Nature of the thing, and by the Apprehensions and Jealousies which those Preparations raised in the Councils of their Neighbours; Some of which had certainly before now been engaged in a War with the Empress of *Muscovy*, or at least with the Duke of *Holstein*, in whose Behalf all these Preparations seem to have been made.

As to the *British* Squadron in the *West-Indies*, who block up the *Spanish* Plate-Fleet at *Porto Bello*, and which the Enemy complain of as an act of Hostility, and upon which they pretend the War is begun on this Side; the same Argument, and the same Example fully answer it: The blocking up the *Muscovite* Fleet with which it was aparent they designed to begin a War, and blocking up the *Spaniard's* Money, without which we know they are but ill able to begin, much less to carry on a War, seem to me to be the very same thing, and that with no Difference at all, except only the Variation of the Circumstance, and calling the Plate-Fleet an Army,
an

an Alliance and a Confederacy of Armies, drawing together for a War; all which they indeed are in Effect; for Money appropriated for War, is War in Embrio, 'tis all that Fleets and Armies are, or may be supposed to be in Design; and it would soon show it self, had the *Spaniards* those Sinews to strengthen their Councils with, and to pursue the Measures which they have visibly engaged in.

So that in all these things 'tis evident *Great Britain* has only acted by way of Prevention, and has hitherto only held the Hands of the quarrelling Powers, and said to them; 'Ye shall not fall out; if ye will make Peace, be quiet, and accommodate things reasonably, well and good, but quarrel you shall not, and fight you shall not.'

If this has been spoken something Magisterially, and with an Air of Influence, as if we had Power to command them to be quiet; I say, If it has, (I do not say it has) 'tis our Felicity, 'tis *Great Britain's* Glory, that she is in a Condition to enforce her Proposals, tho' of Peace, with a hand of Power; seeing still that Power is exerted but for the Good of Mankind, and to keep the World quiet: 'tis a kind of Imitation of Heaven, who, tho' its Pleasure is enforced as a Command, yet it is so for the apparent Good of the World, that they can find it no Grievance to obey.

But our Enemies, they say, take this for an Act of Hostility, that the War is begun by us, and so conclude that they will carry it on as a War in other Places; adding, that we may depend it must be a War, unless the Restraint upon their Plate-Fleet be taken off; if so, then the Question is answer'd, for we see no room to believe the Restraint will be yet taken off, nay I must grant that we can see no reason for it.

This being the true State of the Case, I think the People, who I say should be inform'd, need not wait for any further Information, but may, without any Breach of Prudence, act as if a War was in View; I will not say Inevitable, because many things may intervene, but Probable; and that so probable, that if they are deceived, and run any Hazards on the contrary Presumption, it must be their own Fault.

C H A P. III.

Of the Parties who in Case of a War are like to form the several Interests, and in particular the Hanover and Vienna Alliances.

THE Probability of a Rupture somewhere or other being thus settled, it will be very agreeable to the Age, if we could determine where it is likely to happen; and this is our next Work: In order to which I shall endeavour to make some Judgment upon the foot of the common Observation only, for I pretend to no Cabinet Informations.

The truest way to state the Case, is to cast up the Account of Strength on both Sides; or, in the Terms of our Vulgar *English*, *See who and who's together.*

The Heads of the Parties seem to be collected under the ordinary Acceptation of the *Hanover*, and the *Vienna* Treaties.

On the Side of the *Hanover Treaty*, I suppose the following Powers either actually or publicly engaged, or expected to be so; as for those who are still intriguing on either Side, we shall let them alone 'till we hear farther.

Declar'd } *Great Britain.*
 } *France.*
 } *The States.*

The Kings of *Denmark* } Expected, and even depen-
 Sweden } ded upon as certain.
 and *Sardinia*

The Government of *Hanover* and *Lunenburgb*,
&c. certain.

The King of *Prussia*, not certainly known.

Portugal }
Lorrain } Neuter.
Venice }
Genoa }
Tuscany }

On the Side of the *Vienna* Treaty.

Declar'd { The *Emperor*.
 The King of *Spain*.
 The *Czarina* } Expected, and I suppose
 The King of *Poland* } depended upon, as above.

The Electors { *Saxony*
 of { *Bavaria*
 { *Palatinate* } Expected, and as is re-
 { *Cologn* } ported actually come
 { *Mentz* } in.
 { *Tryers* }

Duke of *Parma* } Expected.
 Duke of *Modena* }
 The King of *Prussia*, as above, not certainly known.

Having thus stated the Powers, it would be natural to examine a little the Occasion of the supposed Differences, and which, in case of a War, may in some sense be called the Quarrel.

As to any Private or Personal Piques and Resentment which may add to the Grounds of the Quarrel, and may give Jealousies on either hand among the Princes concern'd, tho' I might take notice of several almost among them all; such as the sending home the *Infanta* of *Spain*, espousing King *Stanislaus*, the Affair of *Thorn*, the espousing the Duke of *Holstein*, the Succession of *Tuscany*, with several others nearer Home, which I could enter into the Debate of, I purposely omit them here; being, as is said before, resolved to give no Offence; and as I am speaking without Doors, I shall confine my self to such Things as Present to common Observation only.

The secret, and at that time surprizing Alliance, clapt up on a sudden, between the Courts of *Vienna* and of *Spain*, and which is therefore call'd *the Treaty of Vienna*, was the first thing that gave Umbrage to the Protestant Powers of *Europe*; Particularly they seem'd to be alarm'd at some secret Articles which were not at first made Publick, or communicated to them, when the rest of the Treaty was notified by the Ministers of the Parties concern'd.

Upon the publishing this Treaty, and the said Powers of *Spain* and *Vienna* appearing busily employ'd to engage other Powers to come into it, as an Alliance or Confederacy; his *Britanick* Majesty, being then in *Germany*, thought it time also to

draw together the several Powers in other Interests, to form an opposite League or Alliance; which Alliance is said to be wholly Defensive, and therefore entirely Pacific, being form'd merely in order to balance the said Treaty of *Vienna*; and this is called the Treaty of *Hanover*; into which the Neighbouring Powers mention'd above, were invited to join also.

The first and most pointing Clause, which appeared in this new-concerted Alliance or Treaty of *Vienna*, and which gave Umbrage to the said opposite Powers, was a conceded Liberty of Commerce granted by *Spain* to the Subjects of the Emperor, to carry on a Trade to the *East* and *West-Indies*; not only injurious to the several Nations of *Great Britain*, *France*, and the *States-General*, but directly contrary to, and inconsistent with, several solemn Treaties and Conventions actually subsisting between those several Powers, and on the Conditions of which the Emperor enjoys the Possession of the Country, in which this Liberty of Commerce is made use of,

This the Members of the said *Hanover* Alliance insist, is an Invasion of their Rights, and a manifest Breach of the said subsisting Treaties and Conventions; and have not been wanting in all possible, tho' yet peaceable Applications, at the Court of *Vienna*, in order to convince his Imperial Majesty that the said Commerce, and particularly the *Ostend* Company, erected and carried on in consequence of that conceded Liberty, is a Breach of the Publick Faith engaged in those Treaties, and an Invasion of the Rights and Properties of the said Powers, and representing that they could not on any Terms consent to its being carried on,

These Applications have been hitherto in vain, or at least unsuccessful; both the Courts of *Vienna* and *Spain* refusing to yield to the just Demands of the *Hanover* Allies; they at the same time seeming rather to resent, than comply with those Demands, and to arm and draw together their Interests, strengthening themselves by farther and farther Alliances, and carrying on already a kind of War of Negotiation, in order to appear formidable, and to be really so in case of a Rupture; menacing the Allies with their intended Attacks of some of the said *Hanover* Allies in *Flanders*, in *Germany*, or in the *Baltick*,

These things have justly moved the said *Hanover* Allies to Arm also both by Sea and Land; and not only by powerful Fleets to appear at the several Ports where such Powers have been drawing together to carry on their Designs, but have, by the Awe of those Fleets, kept the said Powers from
making

making any Attempt, and from breaking the Peace by the Invasion of their Neighbours, as they most certainly designed to do.

On the other Hand, a Squadron has been sent to the Coasts of *America*, as well to bring off the Ships which are, in the Faith of former Treaties, Trading within the Dominions and in the Ports of *Spain*; as to put a Stop, for the present, to the *Spanish* Plate-Fleet coming away. And all in pursuit of the same Pacifick Measures; that *Spain* seeing how impracticable it is for them to carry on that Important Commerce, without a good Understanding with the more powerful Nations of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Holland*, may be prevail'd with, if possible, to continue their Peaceable Dispositions, and preserve the General Tranquility of *Europe*.

How far these Steps, which have been visibly taken to prevent a War (not to Excite it) have been Successful, and how they are resented by the several Powers, whose Designs are probably cross'd and defeated by them; and whether those Powers, being convinc'd of the Necessity of Harkning to peaceable Proposals, are likely to comply; or whether pretending to be Insulted and Injured by those Measures, they breathe out Resentment, Revenge and War; this is what lies before us to Enquire.

And here, as I profess to be speaking as *without Doors* only, I must content my self to ground all the Reasonings and Inferences which I shall make use of in this Discourse, from the publick received Reports of Things; at least, such as are Confirmed by repeated Advices, are generally received for Truth, and have not as yet been Contradicted or Disputed; without pretending, or indeed having any Occasion to pretend, to Secret Intelligence, Private Information, or knowing any thing which should not be known.

Nor in the Case before me is there any Occasion for enquiring into Secrets, or looking farther than to what appears. For, to do Justice to the *Hanover Allies*, they seem to be above all Disguises in the Case. They are Acting above Board; and the World is left to judge of the Reason and Justice of their Proceedings. The Matter is Short, and Open. They desire Peace; that is evident by the Measures they have already taken to preserve it. They are content with every thing standing upon the ancient Foot. They demand that the subsisting Treaties and Conventions be duly Executed; and upon this they Insist. If it be quietly comply'd with, Peace is the Consequence; If not, *Pax Quaritur Bello*.

And

And this is the Reason, why (as I said before) this is not the Place for the Impatient People to have their Question answered. If they ask us here, Whether Peace or War? We Answer, with the Story in the Gospel, The Emperor is of Age, *Ask him*: The King of *Spain* is of Age, *Go and Ask him*. They are to decide the Case; for the Offer of Peace is to them. And, as they may accept it if they please, they are the only People that can tell whether they will accept it (*'till they are Box'd into it*) or no.

Not that this is like to be long the Case neither, nor is it reasonable it should be so; for if they stand out too long; if they reject the Peace, while it is a Peace subsisting, and suffer or leave Things to come on to Extremities; when once that Peace is broken, and they have pull'd the House down upon their Heads, they must get out of the Rubbish as they can: The Allies are not oblig'd to give them the same Terms at last; or to stand always Tendering and Offering the Peace, when they may have been put to Five or Ten Millions *Sterling* Expence, to beat them to it. *But of this in its Place*. I return to the Point in Hand, *viz. The Present Face of Things*, as they appear to be, and as by the uncontroverted Accounts from all Parts we believe them to be.

1. The *British* Squadron under Sir *Charles Wager* have been in the *Baltick*; they have pass'd by *Denmark*, shewn themselves to *Sweden*, and, as it may be call'd, have block'd up *Revel* and *Petersburgh*, 'till the Season for Action being over, the *Muscovites* can do nothing on that Side.

2. By this Aggression, all the mighty Designs of the *Czarina*, Empress of *Muscovy*, which (as *Fame* says) were very Considerable, and would have broken the Peace of *Christendom*, have been Interrupted and Disappointed. Her embarking an Army in Aid of the Duke of *Holstein*, to recover his Dominions from the *Danes*: Her sending, or, as some say, Selling a Squadron of Men of War to the *Spaniards*, to strengthen their Naval Power: And her other Nameless Designs, whatever they were, have been all render'd Abortive. Her Majesty's Navy, however Formidable, or talk'd up as if they were so, have been Aw'd, kept in Port, and been able to do nothing; no, not so much as to go home again to *Cronslot*, 'till the *English* Fleet thought fit to come away, the Season for Action (as above) being over. All this we allow to be true in Fact; and the Consequences have appeared as visible as the Thing it self: For, Peace, in all those Parts of the World where the War was likely first to break out,

out, has been Preserv'd; the *Danes* are secur'd in the Interest of the *Hanover Treaty*; and the *Swedes* brought off from the other Side, when it was suppos'd they were just upon the Point of Engaging in the Treaty of *Vienna*; or in an Alliance with the Emperor, little better than the other.

How the *Muscovites* will proceed in Consequence of this Transaction; whether the *Czarina*, made sensible how utterly uncapable she is to carry on any of her vast Design, for disturbing the Peace of *Europe*, will comply, and come into the Pacifick Offers of the *Hanover Allies*: Or whether her Majesty, full of Resentment and Anger, at being thus overpowered, will struggle (however vain) to pursue her first Designs; that remains to be discovered by Time. And there (as I said) our impatient Enquirers must go, with their Question about *Peace* or *War*. Her *Czarian Majesty is of Age, ask Her*.

I cannot but put one Speculation here into the Hands of our Politicians, upon this Subject of the *Muscovite Fleet*, and let them consider of it. The late *Czar* had rais'd his Naval Power, considering its Beginning, and the few Years it has been in Being, to a kind of a Prodigy.

A *Muscovite Fleet*, a Thing the World never heard of before, seem'd to appear in the *Baltick*, like a Comet in the waste or Starry Spaces; or like the new Star in *Cassiopeia's Chair*, for all the World to wonder at. That such a Thing was never heard of before, is most certain. The whole *Moscovite Empire* never were Masters of one Ship of War before; no, nor, notwithstanding the vast Extent of their Dominions, had the *Czar*, or any of his Ancestors, ever one Ship they could call their own, in any Part of the World, that I have ever heard or read of, except at *Arch-Angel*.

It was but in the late King *William's* Time that the *Czar* himself turn'd Ship-Carpenter, and work'd Journey-work for the *States-General*. Having in Disguise (so History assures us) Enter'd himself in some of the Building Yards in that Country; Work'd hard; Earn'd his Pay; and Receiv'd his Wages.

There he bought the first Ship he ever had; and now they talk of a Royal Navy, Ships of 80 to 90 Guns; and of bringing out 50 Men of War of the Line. In a Word, neither the *Swede* or *Dane* are able to look them in the Face. Nay, 'tis doubted, whether both together wou'd venture it, if the *English* and *Dutch* were to stand and look on.

And yet all this while (which is the Thing I mention it for) it is not yet tryed, to this Day, whether, notwithstanding

ing all their Ships, they dare Fight, or no. Nor do I find, or can learn, that whether Separately, or Together, they ever yet Fir'd one Broad-side in Earnest, since they had a Ship.

That they were at first well Mann'd, when the Ships were but few, is very certain; and they had Seamen of all Nations in their Pay. Their Ships were Commanded by *Dutch*, and *Scots*, and *English*; and most of their Officers were such also. But now the Number of their Ships is increas'd, and they have Seamen of their own, such as they are: But how they will behave, or whether they have either Skill or Courage to Fight, none yet knows. And the World cannot but be a little Curious to know how it would be. It is indeed my Opinion, they would make but very sorry Work of it. But 'tis strange, that no Accident should happen in all this Time, to give them an Occasion to show, whether they can Fight, or not, and what may be expected of them! Time alone must give us the Experiment, and make the Discovery. But this is a Digression.

3. Another *British* Squadron, under Admiral *Hofier*, being dispatch'd in the very Critical Juncture of the *Spaniards* expecting their Galeons, has been sent to the Gulph of *Mexico*; and shewing themselves on the Side of *Cuba*, and near the *Havana*, stood over to the *Isthmus* of *America*, and to *Porto Belo*, Posting themselves at the Islands call'd the *Ba-fimento's*, a Road which commands the Entrance into *Porto Belo*. Here the Galeons were Unloading, and here they were to take in Twenty-six Millions of Pieces of Eight in Specie, besides other Goods: The said Galeons are still block'd up in that Port, and cannot put to Sea; to the inexpressible Mortification and Disappointment of the *Spaniards*; who, for want of that Treasure, are in no Condition in *Old Spain* to carry on their secret Designs, pay their promis'd Subsidies to the Emperor; and, in short, kindle the Flame of War in *Europe*. *May they be still so disabled.*

4. At the same Time, a Third Squadron, said to be intended to the *Mediterranean* Sea, has been kept Cruising and Plying, off and on, upon the Coast of *Spain*; and is now at *Gibraltar*, ready to Intercept (if it comes in their way) the other Plate Fleet, or the other Part of the Plate Fleet; which, coming from *La Vera Cruz*, with Fifteen Millions of Silver more, is arriv'd at the *Havana*. But having Intelligence (as we suppose) from *Europe*, have landed that Treasure there, and laid by the Ships, not thinking fit to venture any farther; By both which Incidents, the *Spaniards* are depriv'd of the Return of Forty Millions of Pieces of Eight in Bullion, and
about

about Five or Six Millions in Merchandise. And thus stand Affairs on the Side of the *Hanover Treaty*.

Let us now look a little on the other Side. And how does the *Vienna Treaty* or Party proceed? How do they take all these Disappointments? And what are they like to do, as to Peace or War, upon the Resentment?

In their Endeavours to strengthen themselves, by other and farther Alliances, they have not been Idle, that must be granted; they have not been wanting to themselves. If we may believe what their own People acknowledge, they have left no Stone unturn'd to draw off, if possible, the Court of *France* from the *Hanover Treaty*; and to prevent the King of *Sardinia* joyning in with it; but have miscarry'd in both. The First of these seems to be the greatest and most essential Disappointment of all the rest; and which abundantly shows, how Impracticable it is, to bring the Interests of *France* and the Empire, or of *France* and *Spain*, to Unite together. No, notwithstanding a Prince of the House of *Bourbon* enjoys the Crown of *Spain*, uninterrupted, and in full Peace. *But that by the way.*

This Attempt, as it was of the utmost Importance to the Imperial Court, so I suppose I may obtain your Belief, when I say the Popish Clergy have not been wanting to use their utmost Interest at the Court of *France* in favour of it; and, if possible, to bring the Councils of *France* to favour the Happy Juncture (as they call it) of bringing about a Religious War; and for bringing the two Treaties of *Hanover* and *Vienna* to be entirely a *Protestant Alliance*, and a *Papish*; that so the Article of Religion might have been brought in, as the chief Matter to be Fought for.

But they have not been able to do it, tho' a Church-man sits at the Head of Affairs in *France*, and a Cardinal is their Prime Minister. So true is the modern Proverb in *France*, That *All the French Fools are dead*. So apparent is it, that tho' the *French* are, as a People, not only *Papists*, but have been Persecutors; yet, as a Government, they are no Slaves to the Church.

That the King of *Sardinia* is as good as lost to them also, appears by the *Imperialists* Arming in the *Milanesse*; Fortifying *Novara*; and ordering 20000 Men to be drawn together upon the first Notice; which (as they write from thence) will advance, as soon as they have a certain Account of the King's having Signed the Treaty of *Hanover*.

It might have been of Use here, to take Notice, How much it would be to the Advantage of the *Vienna Alliance*,

if they had been able to have drawn off the King of *Sardinia*. But this is a Subject too tedious for this Tract. I hear, however, that the Court of *Vienna* exclaim loudly at the great Ingratitude (as they call it) of that King, who, *they say*, owes his Crown and particularly the Deliverance of his Capital City of *Turin*, to the *Imperialists*; that These travers'd the whole Breadth of *Italy*, in that Glorious March of the Imperial Army, to raise the Siege; and gave the *French* the greatest Overthrow they ever receiv'd in all the War, except *Blenheim* only; and all to save Him from Imminent Destruction, which had been otherwise Unavoidable. But I shall reserve that Part to an Article by it self; when I may have Occasion to speak of the Gratitude of Princes, for Favours receiv'd; and of *Imperial Gratitude*, among the rest.

Nor shall I enter here into the Measures taken by the Court of *Vienna*, to bring off (if possible) a certain Powerful *Protestant* Prince, from the Alliance of *Hanover*; in which, 'tis nois'd, that they have had at least some Prospect of Success. But this Part being not yet so publick, or so perfectly known, nor the Particulars of their Success (whatever it is) so Visible, either in Fact, or in Consequence, as it is probable they may soon be, I refer it to Time.

That the *Imperialists* have engaged the Electors of *Bavaria* and *Cologn*, and the Elector *Palatine*, and are not in doubt of *Saxony*, may, for ought we yet see, be true: And the Alliance of those Princes (especially of Two of them) are not Inconsiderable. But 'tis as certain, that the Motions even of the best of those Princes (if not of all the rest) depend so much upon *Spanish* Money, which seems at present very remote, that the Success of those Things seems very Doubtful upon that Account. And even the Emperor, however Powerful, may find it difficult to Act in a vigorous Manner, for want of those Sinews of War, which they expected from *Spain*.

Were all these Things duly Weigh'd, and fairly and impartially Judg'd of, common Reasoning would seem to tell us, there could be no War in View; that the *Imperial* and *Spanish* Councils could not be so Weak, so Infatuated, and so Blind to their true Interest, as to run themselves into a War, so surrounded with Difficulties; and against Enemies so perfectly well Furnish'd with every Thing that these want; so full of what they are so empty of; and so ready for Action, tho' so willing to have Peace.

But, What will not Pride and Passion drive Men to? And how Deaf are even the wisest Princes and States, to the Opportunities

portunities of their own Circumstances, when their Ambition and their particular Passions hurry them on?

Under all the Pressures, which 'tis apparent the Principal Branches of the *Vienna Alliance* are embarrass'd with, and notwithstanding all the Difficulties they struggle with, yet we see them Haughty; Menacing the other Allies, raising Forces, Filling up their Regiments, Storing Magazines, Drawing Troops to the Frontiers; and, in a Word, (as it is usually express'd) Talking of nothing but War.

Their Generals are Named for the Command of their Armies, in several Places where they are to Act; as in *Flanders*, *Italy*, and (as some say) at *Gibraltar*. The Emperor demands a new Levy of 6000 Men, say some Accounts, 10000, say others, of the States of the *Lower Austria*; and mentions the Occasion of it; namely, to Oppose the Designs of those that would disturb the Peace of his Dominions; that is to say, to maintain the *Ostend Trade*, and the Alliance with *Spain*. And thus stands the Case on the *Imperial Part* of the *Vienna Alliance*. We shall see more of it presently.

C H A P. IV.

Of the Adverse Powers falling upon the British Commerce. That Invading our Trade, is Invading our Property; breaking the Peace: And so the War may be properly said to be begun. A Word or two, how Weak, and Foolish, the Attempts this way are; and how easy it is to Disappoint them.

THE Politicks of the Powers mentioned above, in Forming their Interests and Alliances, have been mention'd; and, in that Part, they may be said to Act with some Council. If they had acted with the same Prudence, in some other Parts of their Measures, I am of Opinion we should indeed have had no Quarrel at all; that is to say, they would have given the Allies no Occasion of a War; no, notwithstanding their *New Vienna Treaty*.

But that which more particularly calls for our Attention, in the Conduct of these Powers, is their falling upon Trade, and the *British Commerce* in particular. And this, tho' they

are able to do but little in it, to any Purpose, or at least have done but little in it yet; I say, this shows the reigning Disposition among them, to insult, injure, and affront his Majesty, and his Allies, and wound their Interest in every Place where it is Valuable; so (if possible) to retaliate what they call our Interrupting their Commerce at *Porto Belo*.

In Prosecution of this weak Project (which seems, indeed, as foolish as it is forward) they have mutually made some little Effays. I shall mention the Facts first, and then the Views of the Contrivers; their Expectations from them, and the Meaning of them, so far as they may be allowed to have any Meaning; which I think indeed will appear very Empty and Weak, and unlikely to Succeed, or answer their End.

The first Step was made by the Emperor, in Prohibiting the Sale of the *English* Manufactures at the Fair of *Messina*. As to the generous Part of this Piece of Management, it had, indeed, something very Extraordinary in it; particularly that the Emperor, that very Emperor, for whose Service and Assistance his Majesty sent an *English* Squadron, to drive away the *Spaniards*, and to keep the Sea clear, for his recovering the same City of *Messina*, and that whole Island; which *English* Squadron continuing in that Part of the World so long, and at so great an Expence of the *British* Treasure, made way for the Conquest of *Sicily*; and without which the *Spaniards* would never have been Beaten out of it: I say, that the same Emperor should be the first of all the Princes of *Sicily*, that should prohibit the *English* Commerce there, and fall upon the Trade and Interest of his Benefactors!

Nor could there be any Pretence of the Subjects Benefit, in this Prohibition. No *Sicilian* or *Italian* Manufacture had been substituted in the Room of the *English*; or which the *English* could be said to be Injurious to. Nor was any such Reason given, or pretended to be given, for it, that I have yet met with; or any Other; only, That such was his Imperial Majesty's Pleasure.

On the contrary, even the Subjects themselves Remonstrated against it (as I have been Informed) as prejudicial to their own Commerce.

The farther Prohibition of the *English* Manufactures in the Imperial Hereditary Countries, and Proclaimed by Sound of Trumpet at *Lintz* and *Vienna*, tho' it has the specious Pretence of being done in Favour of their own Manufactures, and at the Request of a Company Established by the Emperor, for carrying on the Woollen Manufacture there; yet it manifestly

festly pointed at the Commerce of *England* in general; several Manufactures being mentioned in the same Prohibition, which their own Company do not pretend to make, or to make any other that can serve in their stead; as appears by the Remonstrances of the Merchants and Tradesmen of the neighbouring Provinces in his Imperial Majesty's Dominion, made publick with the other.

But to leave these things, which, as I said, are as weak and impotent as they appear to be piquant, and as I might say, malicious; we come next to the King of *Spain's* Grant of a Trade to the Emperor's Subjects to the *East and West-Indies*; a Trade which the *Spaniards* have, 'till now, been so jealous of, that they have with great Strictness excluded all other Nations from it: But now as an Introduction to this Trade, they have set up an *East-India* Company at *Ostend*, who have already carried on a Trade to *India*, and even to *China*, to the manifest Prejudice of the Allies; and this in a Country conquered for the Emperor by the Arms of those very Nations which are now injured by it: and which Trade is expressly contrary to and inconsistent with all the Treaties and Conventions upon the foot of which the Emperor enjoys the Dominion of those Countries, and of the very Port of *Ostend* it self.

Will any Man ask, after this, whether these Powers acting thus, intend a War? Invading our Commerce, is invading our Property; especially where the exclusive Right to that Commerce is expressly stipulated; and invading a Nation's Property is a War begun. As Treaties of Peace commence an Amity and Accord between Nations who were before at War, so avowed Breaches of those Treaties put an end to that Amity, and, *ipso facto*, commence a War.

It is true, in most Treaties of Peace, and where a continued Amity is designed, there is usually a Clause mentioning, that if any casual Contravention of those Articles shall happen on either side, on Complaint made, Commissioners on both Sides shall meet to settle and adjust the Grievances, and Satisfaction shall be made; so that such Contravention shall not be deemed as a Breach of the Peace, or any Reprisals be used, unless the said Satisfaction be first deny'd.

But have not frequent Representations, Memorials, and Complaints been made at the Courts of *Vienna* and *Madrid* against this open Infraction of a Treaty, without being able to obtain any Redress? but on the contrary, several haughty Expressions been heard of, as if the Emperor was at Liberty to invade any Part of the Commerce of his Neighbours, and to break in upon the most solemn Treaties and
Con-

Conventions, in what Manner and at what Time he pleases; and, as may be said, take the Bread out of the Mouths not of private Persons only, but even of Nations and incorporated Societies of Trade, at whatever Expence and Hazard those Societies and Companies have been established?

This Method seems to leave the Allies no other Remedy but that of Force. Trading Nations are obliged to defend their Commerce. If others pretend to interrupt it, these think themselves engaged to enquire into those Interruptions, and remove them. If the Doors of our Commerce are shut, we must open them; if it is done by rigorous Usage of our Merchants, new Impositions or Prohibitions, the Government always has thought fit to espouse the Merchants, preserve them from injurious Treatment, and to concern themselves to obtain Right to be done; and have, as we may say, made the Case of their Merchants their own.

We had an Example of this lately, in the present Reign, when an *English* Merchant at *Lisbon* (betrayed by his Agents and Servants there) was seiz'd upon, and his Goods confiscated, or ordered to be so, for a particular Affair of Exporting Money; and tho' the Offence was indeed, strictly speaking, Capital by their Laws; yet, as many of the Effects of Merchants here in *England*, who were innocent of the Fact, were stopt among the rest, and the Person there was a Man of Worth and Consideration, and of a good Character; and especially as it seemed to affect the whole Commerce, His Majesty was pleased to interpose, and procure the Enlargement of the Merchant, and the discharging of the Effects: And the King of *Portugal* listen'd to the powerful Intercession of the King, and passed over the thing; notwithstanding, as I have said, it was a real Offence.

Much more in other Cases, when the whole Commerce is struck at, Trade loaded with new Burthens, new Impositions, and Difference made between the Subjects of one Nation and the Subjects of another: The Governments whose Subjects are so distinguished in those Oppressions, have always thought themselves concerned in the Invasions of their Trade, and have espoused the Interests of their Merchants, and of the Trade, as a publick Concern.

It is alledged in this Case that every Prince or Government has a Right to govern their own Commerce, and make such Prohibitions, or lay such Duties and Imposts upon their Importations, as they think fit; because such Prohibitions chiefly regard the Use and Wearing of such or such Goods by their own People; and it is always the Right of any Government

to limit the Usages, Habits, Customs and Apparel of their own Subjects.

The Answer to this is short and direct. It is so, where no former Stipulations, Treaties and Conventions are made to the contrary; but that Right is limited, and ceases, when the said Nation, so loading the Commerce of any other Country, have by Treaty oblig'd themselves expressly not to do it: Then, I say, and in case of such Treaties, the Case alters, and their Hands are tied up, and to do it afterward is an Infraction of the Treaty, and a Breach of the Friendship and good Correspondence established between the two Nations.

This was exactly the Case in the late Disputes which happen'd here, about opening the Trade to *France*. It was urged, that it could not be; that *England* could not take off the high Duties upon the Importation of Wines (in particular) from *France*, unless a Proportion of the Duties upon the Wines of *Portugal* were also taken off; so as that the Duty upon the *Portugal* Wines should be still so much less than the Duties on the Wines of *France*.

The Reason of this was, because *England* was under Express Conditions to the contrary in the Treaty of Peace and Commerce then subsisting with *Portugal*; and the Articles of the said Treaty of *Portugal* were produced, wherein it was expressly stipulated as above, that the Duties on *French* Wine should always be so and so limited; and this being found to be true in fact, was admitted as a sufficient Reason why the Commerce of *France* could not be opened as was proposed.

All Breaches of Treaties are Breaches of Friendship, whether they relate to the Peace or Commerce of the Nations; and the Breach of Friendship between Nations is a kind of declaring War in many Respects; and nothing but meer Force and Invasion can be a more manifest Breach of Friendship, than stopping the Intercourse and Correspondence of the Merchants.

Nor is this one of the least, or less important Articles in most Treaties, viz. That there shall be a free Intercourse of Trade and Correspondence between the Subjects of either Nation; as may be seen in almost all the Treaties of Peace which have been made among the Nations of *Europe*; and it will be found so in a particular and extraordinary manner in all the Treaties made and now subsisting between *Great-Britain* and *Spain*; and this Particular will be found in those Treaties which is modern and singular, namely, That the Subjects of *Britain* shall be used in all the Affairs relating to Commerce, upon the same foot as the Nations which are most

favoured. Which Article was inserted in regard to some Apprehensions that the *French* should be more especially and particularly favoured in the Affairs of Trade, than the *English*, and that they should be distinguished with a Partiality singular, and to the Prejudice of the *British* Commerce.

In case this Partiality should be afterward put in Practice, in case this Correspondence, Intercourse and Commerce be interrupted by the Governour of that Country with whom such a free Intercourse was stipulated, and Prohibitions of the Trade set up; the Peace is so far broken. Suppose, for Example, the Importation of the *British* Manufactures in *Spain* is forbid, and the Use or Wearing them prohibited, which is the severest way of interrupting the Commerce; is not this equally a Breach of the good Understanding and Commerce of the two Nations? Is it not a Breach of the Friendship and free Intercourse between them? and what is this less than a kind of declaring War?

It was the Observation of a wise Man, that the Peace and Friendship of two trading Nations seldom (nay he said Never) continued long, where Commerce remained contraband. 'Tis like two Men pretending to Friendship, yet never speaking to, or saluting, or taking notice of one another upon any Occasion. How long will that continue? How long will such Friendship subsist?

Our Interest is our Trade; and our Trade is, next to our Liberty and Religion, one of our most valuable Liberties; if our Neighbours pretend to shut the Door against our Commerce, we must open it; and that by Force, if no other Means will procure it. To invade our Commerce is to invade our Property, and we may, and must defend it; and therefore I say, to invade our Trade is to begin a War; and will any Man then ask me, whether we shall have *War* or *Peace*?

The Answer is Categorical; if they please to leave our Commerce free and uninterrupted, as they found it; lay down their interloping Companies, by which they have begun to invade it; cease their Infractions of the solemn Treaties, and leave our Commerce open, then with some other Concessions all will be well, and I believe we shall have no *War*.

On the other hand, Do all those things go on, shall they support their interloping *Ostend* Company; forbid their Subjects wearing and using our Manufacture; and interrupt our Commerce? As *Jehu* said to the King of *Israel* when he met him, and asked, *Is it Peace, Jehu?* he replied, *What Peace, while the Whoredoms of thy Mother Jezebel and her Witchcrafts are so many?* So I say, What Peace, when the Encroachments

encroachments on our Trade, the Interruptions and Invasions of our Commerce are so many? What Peace, while the Leagues and private Confederacies are so many? Leagues that are so apparently destructive of Peace and good Neighbourhood; Leagues that threaten War, and are an open consolidating of Interests in case of War; Leagues that support Popery and Persecution, and suppressing and murdering Protestant Subjects under Guarantee of Protestant Powers and Princes; Leagues that are in their own Nature tacit Declarations of a warlike Intention. What Peace can there be, while this is the Case?

We have seen frequent Examples upon many, nay almost upon all such Occasions, that when any Princes raise Forts or fortify Towns upon their Frontiers, or re-fortify Towns which have been demolished by Treaties and Confederacies; that such fortifying of Frontiers is taken for an Intimation of War, or at least for a Testimony of unpeaceable and dangerous Designs; and the neighbouring Princes generally take Umbrage at such things; send Agents and Messages to enquire into the Reason of them; declare their Dissatisfaction, and threaten to use Force to put a stop to those Preparations, Fortifications, and repairing of demolished Places.

If the Princes and Powers by whom those Fortifications are made, do not give a peaceable and satisfactory Answer, assign proper Reasons for what they do, and give Assurances that they have no Design injurious to their Neighbours the Complainers, they frequently draw together their Forces, and appear resolved to oblige them by their Power, to give over or demolish again the Works they had begun.

Examples of this are many, and recent in Memory; as the Fortifications which the King of *Denmark* raised at *Husum*, at *Hensden*, and other Places on the Frontiers of *Holstein*, which caused the *Swedes* and Princes of *Lunenburgh* to arm against him, after in vain having desired his *Danish* Majesty to cease his Works and leave the Country open; and this caused an Army of those Powers to assemble and march to the Frontiers, in order to effect it by Force, no other Method proving effectual; upon which ensued the Treaty of *Travendhal*, where the King of *Denmark* yielded, and the Forts were immediately demolished.

The like Case, but more universally known and remembered, was that of the *French* attempting to fortify *Mardike*, after the demolishing of *Dunkirk*, and to build a Port or Haven with Piers and Sluices there, as before at *Dunkirk*.

It was certainly just (and no Nation had any thing to do with it) that the *French* might, and ought to be at Liberty to build Piers and make Harbours, Docks and other things for the Assistance of their Commerce and Navigation in any Part of their Dominions, as much as the King of *England* has a Right to do it at *Dover*, or the *Dutch* at *Sluys*.

But if his Majesty had stipulated by a solemn Treaty not to do it, I cannot say it would be equally rightful or just to do it then. So the *French* having positively engaged not to raise any Fortifications at *Dunkirk*, or to restore that Harbour there, or on any Part of the Coast near it, as was the Case in the Treaty of *Utrecht*, that Right to do it ceased, and was anticipated and taken away by the Treaty; for what any Prince or Power have bound themselves not to do, they may be said to have no Right to do.

There are many Examples of the like kind in several other Parts of the World, but these are sufficient.

I might bring this home to the Harbour of *Ostend*. I am not sensible that any Treaty or Convention by which the Emperor enjoys that Port, obliges him not to enlarge it, deepen the Channel, make Piers, Basins, or any thing else, as shall appear for his Convenience, and for the Security of his Merchants and of their Ships: I say I do not know that the Emperor is under any Treaty or Obligation not to do this, and so his ordering these Enlargements are no Contravention of any such Treaty, nor any just Ground of Quarrel or Jealousy; for why should not his Imperial Majesty do every just thing for the Good of his People, the Encouragement of their Commerce, the Security of their Ships, and the like?

But as these Works at *Ostend* are evidently design'd for the receiving and protecting the Ships, encouraging the Trade, and carrying on the new Company's Commerce to the *Indies*, which Trade the Emperor is expressly bound even in the very Tenure of his Possession not to support or carry on, or to suffer to be carried on; then the Case differs exceedingly; and even the fortifying *Ostend*, deepening and enlarging the Harbour, and the like, as mentioned above, is a just matter of Jealousy; and however lawful in itself, yet intimates plainly, that the Emperor and his Subjects are resolved to continue and carry on that Trade, how prejudicial soever to their Neighbours the *English* and *Dutch*, and however it may appear to be inconsistent with the Treaties and Obligations which His Imperial Majesty is bound by, and enjoys the Country by the Stipulation of.

It evidently shews a resolved Temper, a fixed Design and Disposition to continue that Commerce, however injurious to us their Neighbours; and that (if it cannot be otherwise obtained) instead of abating or laying it down, as was expected, and according to the Remonstrances of the Allies, they resolve rather to maintain it by Force; and menacing the Ally'd Powers with their formidable Resentments, pretend to make War upon those that shall interrupt it; as if they were able to Act in the same Hostile manner they talk of, and as if their Power was equal to their Bluster, on those Occasions.

This is what (in our vulgar way) we call *Showing their Teeth*; and could they do no more that way by Land, than they can by Sea, it would merit some vulgar Talking of it. But as they seem to threaten the World with their mighty Forces, and that those Forces are indeed Considerable, at least are far from being Despicable, this is that which tells me there seems to be a Necessity of a War.

The *Flemings* talk big; and say, if the *Dutch* (for Example) dare to touch their Ships, and interrupt their Trade, in and to the *Indies*; the Emperor will attack them with all his Forces by Land. That I call War: and that is what I call the Necessity of a War. For it seems not to be expected, that Marine Trading Nations, such as the *English* and *Dutch*, whose Trade to the *Indies* is so considerable, and which the Emperor is by Treaty bound not to Invade, will sit still; and see it Invaded and Insulted. On the contrary, I think they will not, must not, cannot do it.

If then the *Dutch*, &c. cannot, must not, and will not, bear this Commerce; and the Emperor will not, cannot lay it down, and give it over; and threatens them, if they offer to interrupt it: What follows? What is the necessary Consequence, but a War? Nay, What are these Things but a War in Effect, if not in all the Circumstances of it? And where these things are Acted in this Manner, how can any Man make a Question, whether a War will happen, or no?

C H A P. V.

Whether in Point of Right and Wrong we ought or may conclude, that a War ought to be the Consequence of the present Councils in Europe.

IT is not the most difficult Thing in the World, to make a Judgment of what *may be*, by *what is*: The publick Conduct of Princes and States seldom so effectually disguises their Intentions, but some Rational Observations may be made; some Just Inferences drawn; and some Probable Guesses be made, of what will be the Issue of their Councils.

The present Politicks of *Europe* are indeed more Intricate than ordinary: And yet they are not without evident, visible Marks of the Intention that several Princes and Powers have, or had, to Break the Peace of the World, and invade the *Property* and *Commerce* of their Neighbours, in order to begin a War.

I have already mention'd, that the *Czarina*, or Empress of *Muscovy*, had form'd a Resolution to begin a War, and put an End to the Tranquility of *Europe*, by an Attempt upon the King of *Denmark*, in Favour of the Duke of *Holstein*. I do not say positively it is so; but who can make any Doubt of it? To what Purpose were the Neighbours of that Princess alarm'd in that Manner? And why was the *British* Squadron sent into the *Baltick* to prevent those Attempts, if there was not such an apparent Design? Nor (as I am told) did the Court of *Petersburgh* so much as endeavour to Conceal it; but rather sollicited other Powers to Assist the said Duke, in, what they call'd, Recovering his Inheritance.

Again, who can doubt the Resolutions of the *British* Court (if possible) to Preserve the Peace; keep every one in the quiet Possession of what they held; and tye up every Side to those Terms of Peace which they had already Consented to; when they saw the *British* Fleet block up the Aggressors in their Ports, and put an End to all the violent Measures resolv'd on? (A Testimony also, that such Measures were resolv'd on.)

As to the Justice of the Duke of *Holstein's* Claim to the Possession of his Antient Dominions, I have nothing to do with that here: Be it Just, or Unjust, that they were taken from him; and be it Right, or Wrong, that they are kept
from

from him, that is not the Question to us. But as the *Czarina* Aiding the Duke with a Powerful Army, as was intended, for the Recovery of those Dominions, would necessarily have begun a War, and perhaps embarked several Princes on both Sides, in the Quarrel; so far the Pacifick Powers were justly engag'd to prevent it; and probably may exert themselves in the same, or like manner, to do the like for the future; and that, not only there, but any where else where they find the like Occasion.

Not that *Great Britain* should be always at the Yearly Expence of such a Fleet, to keep the *Muscovite* Fleet within Bounds, and to preserve the Peace of the *Baltick*: But it is to be suppos'd, that the *Swedish* and *Danish* Powers being United, they may at length join their Fleets, and be in a Condition to match the *Muscovite* Fleet, and Command the Sea so, as to keep them up within their Ports, without the Assistance of their Neighbours.

From thence let us consider the Preparations of the Imperialists. Why should I not say, that it is very probable they intend a War, when we have the following Account published in one of our publick Papers, said to be come from the Council of the *States General*?

Hague, Decemb. 17. N. S.

“ Some Days ago, the Ministers of *Great Britain* and
 “ *France* were invited to a Solemn Conference with the *States*
 “ *General*; where their High Mightiness's Deputies opened
 “ the Discourse with a Recapitulation of all the Resolutions
 “ taken by the States, since their Accession to the Treaty of
 “ *Hanover*, that regarded the Military Preparations; to which
 “ they added, That since there remained little or no Likely-
 “ hood that the Differences between the Contending Powers
 “ of *Europe* could be amicably Adjusted during the Winter,
 “ the *States* had all the Reason in the World to fear that the
 “ Emperor would, in Revenge for such their Accession, be-
 “ gin Hostilities against the Republick; either by Attacking it
 “ with open Force, or by stopping the Payment of the Subsi-
 “ dies, stipulated by the Barrier Treaty.

The Reason of my quoting this Speech of the *States* Deputies, is very plain, as the Speech it self is very convincing in the Case before us. If the *States* have all the Reason in the World to fear that the Emperor will begin Hostilities with them, for their Acceding to the *Hanover Treaty*; then we have the same Reason, that is to say, all the Reason in the World, to believe a War will follow. So that there you have

have the Answer of the *States General* directly to this great Question about the War.

Here is another Thing also advanc'd in that short Speech of the *Dutch* Deputies, which affords us some Foundation for the Arguments already used; where I seem to insist That the War is as it were already resolv'd on, if not begun, by the *Imperialists* and *Spaniards*, and by their interrupting and invading our Commerce. The Deputies say,

“ They have all the Reason in the World to fear that the Emperor will begin Hostilities against the Republick, either by Attacking it with open Force, or by stopping the Subsidies stipulated by the Barrier Treaty.

Where, *Stopping the Payment* of stipulated Subsidies to the *Dutch* Troops, is call'd a Beginning of Hostilities. And is not then stopping the Course of stipulated Commerce, a Beginning of Hostilities? I cannot refrain saying, I think it is: And, *if so*, then I think the Hostilities are begun, as much as if the Armies were in the Field, or the Fleets engag'd.

But now, as to the Question, as it stands in Point of RIGHT; that indeed differs exceedingly: for 'tis one Thing to ask me, Whether *I believe* the Emperor WILL begin a War, and another Thing, Whether HE OUGHT to do so, or has a just Cause to do it, *or no*.

As to the Question, Whether the Emperor *ought* to begin a War? I have two Reasons to give, why I think not; why I think the Emperor ought not to make a War, as well in general, as not in particular, in this Case.

1. Because, *in general*, no War ought to be made among Christians, but upon just and unavoidable Occasion. Had this War been entred upon, only in Support of a Commerce set up upon unjust Foundations, against express Stipulations, and against the Tenor of Conditions on which the very Country came to the Emperor, in which he carries it on; he rather might be said to forfeit by this Encroachment the Right he had, than have a new Right to push on Separate Interests, in Prejudice of others.

2. Because, *in particular*, he is under Special and Personal Obligations to the very Nations who are injured by this Commerce; and that such, as that to them he owes the very Possessions and Dominions which he enjoys, as well in that, as in several other Parts of the World. The *Netherlands* may be said to be their Gift to him; they were gain'd at their Cost, at the Expence of their Blood and Treasure. And tho' it might be call'd his Right, yet ('tis very probable) he had never had the Possession of that Right, if they had not Powerfully

fully supported his Claim, conquer'd the Country by their Armies, put it into his Hand; and obtained the Concession of *France* to it, by the Treaty of Peace concluded at *Utrecht*.

GRATITUDE binds Princes as well as private Men; Nations, as well as particular Persons: And such good Offices as these, can never be too much acknowledg'd, or too well requir'd. To say Kings and Emperors are not bound by such Obligations, is to say Kings and Emperors are not or can not be Good Men, or Honest Men.

GRATITUDE is a Branch of *Honesty*; and it is very hard to say, or even to think, a Man can be Honest that is not Grateful; for as *Gratitude* respects an Obligation past, or a Kindness receiv'd; so it is no more or less, than paying a Debt; and tho' the Debt be not such perhaps as can be demanded by Process (if it were, the Creditor could oblige the Debtor to Payment) yet the Obligation is the stronger. The Man of Honour always thinks himself bound faster by the generous Kindness of his Friend, than by his own Bond, and will more punctually pay a Debt of Honour, than a Debt of Law.

To say a Prince is above all Acknowledgment, and all Returns of *Gratitude*, is to say a Prince is not bound by Principles of *Honour*.

Nor can Reasons of State ballance this Principle of Honour, or the Sense of Obligation in a Prince. The late King *Charles II.* and indeed the whole *English* Nation, left a remarkable Testimony of their publick Regard to this Principle of Honour upon Record, even in a National Capacity, which I cannot but mention.

After the Restoration, the *English* Parliament thought it convenient, for the Publick Good, to make several strict Laws against Popish Recusants; and especially against Popish Priests, who were (on the severest Penalties) forbid residing here, and particularly officiating as Priests.

Yet not the King only, but the Parliament it self, in all their Acts, made an Exception for Father *Huddleston* a Priest, nay, a *Jesuit*; in perpetual Remembrance of and *Gratitude* for his Fidelity to the Person of the King, in concealing his Majesty, and assisting to his Escape, even at the Hazard of his own Life, and in Contempt of the Reward of 1000*l.* offered by the Enemy for the Discovery, after the Defeat of the Royal Army at *Worcester*.

Here was a Testimony of a Nation's *Gratitude*, and of a Prince's *Gratitude*, and that even when the said Nation was under
the

the most powerful and just Apprehensions of the pernicious Practices of those very Priests, for the perverting both Prince and People to Popery; and when that Prince, as it was said at last, was influenced so far as to be secretly reconcil'd, - - - &c.

But GRATITUDE never dyes, and Obligation never ceases; nothing can wear it out of the Mind, where the Mind is once possess'd with Principles of Honour, of Religion, and of Justice: A Man of Honour can no more be Ingrate, than a Man of Honesty can Steal. Ingratitude is hardly to be express'd by any Word worse than it self; and therefore 'twas the Saying of a great Man, *That to say a Man is Ingrate, is to say All of him that is Evil*: Ingratitude being a Complication of almost all Crimes. 'Tis a cancelling all Obligations in the Mind; and harbouring Mischief and Resentment, instead of Affection and a Sense of Obligation.

I have heard from some of our Moralizing, Criticizing Friends, who are fam'd for searching too nicely into Nature's *Arcana*, that it is an Evil rooted in Mankind, to have an Aversion, instead of Affection, where they are over-loaded with Obligation. That Man, thro' a certain secret Pride natural to him, and introduced by the first Seeds of Degeneracy, constantly hates to be Obliged beyond his Power to make Returns.

That as long as he can balance Accounts, and while he is upon the Square, he will be an entire Friend, and act as such upon every Occasion; nay, he will be pleas'd with the Occasion of over-paying the Debt: But when he sees a Weight of Obligation flowing in too heavy for him to throw off, that the Debt is too great to be paid, and that he can never hope to balance the Account, he grows sick of the Obligation; and consequently throwing off all thoughts of Return, Hatred comes in of Course; for the Man hates to see the Person to whom he must be always making Acknowledgments.

I will not say how far I am or am not of this Opinion, in this Case; but I must own, that I can find out no other Way, (or at least no better Way) to account for the Conduct of a certain Prince in the World; I mean as to Obligations laid upon him Personally, as well as in his Publick Capacity, by the *British Nation*.

I remember a small Book, or Pamphlet, published in the Year 1712, Entituled, IMPERIAL GRATITUDE, drawn from a modest View of the Conduct of the Emperor Charles VI. and the King of Spain Charles III. with Observations on the Difference.

In this Book there is a large Account of Obligations laid on his Majesty *Charles III.* then King of *Spain*, by the late Queen and the *British* Nation; and the GRATEFUL RETURNS made by his Imperial Majesty *Charles VI.* The former taken principally from Acknowledgments under his Catholick Majesty's own Hand; and the rest from the Votes and Orders of Parliament, and other Authentick Vouchers; a few of which may not be improper to be quoted in this Case, because of some additional Articles which *Great Britain* is able to add to the Account, since the Accession of His Majesty King *George.*

It is in every one's Memory, how after the Death of *Charles II.* King of *Spain*, the House of *Austria* and the House of *Bourbon* severally claimed the Succession to that Crown; and how the Emperor *Leopold*, then living, causing his eldest Son *Joseph* to Renounce, who, being then King of *Hungaria*, and King of the *Romans*, was presumptive Successor (tho' in Election) to the Empire; declared his Second Son, the then Arch-Duke *Charles*, King of *Spain*, and made Application to the Confederates (then in War against *France*) for their Assistance, and for placing him upon the Throne; for None else could do it.

Let us see in what humble Terms (as to his Grandson) the good old Emperor writes to the Allies, and especially to the Queen of *England.* Take it, Word for Word, from his Imperial Majesty's own Hand. N. B. *The Emperor does not give the Title of Majesty, but Serenity, to any Kings or Queens.*

“ Our said Son would gladly signify this to your Serenity,
 “ and express our Joint *Gratitude* and *Acknowledgment* of it
 “ in Person: But since the present Posture of the Common
 “ Affairs calls him further, he will perform this in another
 “ Method, at his Arrival. But may it please your Serenity,
 “ in the mean time, to allow us (since he is to leave us in a
 “ few Days) wholly to deliver him over, and to recommend
 “ him to your Serenity as to another MOTHER, with
 “ Assurance on his Part, That as long as *he Lives*, he shall
 “ honour your Serenity with Filial Respect; and that our Fa-
 “ mily shall ever be obliged to serve your Serenity in the
 “ strictest Manner, and in perpetual Gratitude.

Vienna, Sept. 13. 1703.

Signed LEOPOLD,

‘ In consequence of this Recommendation (says my Au-
 ‘ thor) the young King is sent by Land from *Vienna* to *Hol-*
 ‘ land, and passing from thence to *England*, we find him re-

‘ceiv’d with all the Respect and magnificent Bounty, that
‘suited the first Steps taken for his Advancement.

‘He had his first Access to the Queen at *Windsor, Dec. 26,*
‘1703. Her Majesty receiv’d him at the Head of the Stairs,
‘where his first Bow seem’d (by those that saw it) to signify,
‘that he meant to kiss the Ground at her Majesty’s Feet.
‘Then he made the Queen a becoming Compliment, acknow-
‘ledging his great Obligations to her.

After this, when the said King arriv’d at *Lisbon*, being
complimented by Mr. *Methuen, English Ambassador to the*
King of Portugal, says the same Author,

‘His Majesty receiv’d him very graciously, and express’d,
‘in the most obliging Terms, the great Respect and Venera-
‘tion he hath for her Majesty, and how sensible he is of the
‘great and many Obligations he oweth her; which he hopeth
‘he should be so happy as to be able to return, in such a man-
‘ner, as might shew the whole World the grateful Sense he
‘should always retain of her Majesty’s Kindness to him.’

Here is Part of the Obligation acknowledged to the Queen
Personally.

Let us follow his Catholick Majesty into *Catalonia*, and
there we find him acknowledging the same Things to the
whole *British* Nation, and, indeed, with the same or greater
Reason.

He arriv’d at *Barcelona* in *Septemb. 1705*, aided by the Con-
federate Forces; he Lands, takes *Barcelona, Gironne, Lerida,*
and *Tortosa*; and, in a Word, the greatest Part of the whole
Principality.

In acknowledgment of the great Assistance he receiv’d
from this Service, he writes to the Queen a long Letter,
throughout which he expresses his Grateful Sense of it; but in
particular, as it respects the whole Kingdom, as well as the
Queen, he has, among others, this high Expression;

“I receive so great an Assistance from your Majesty and your
“**GENEROUS NATION**, that I am overcome with your
“Goodness, and in the greatest Confusion, that I should be the Oc-
“casion of so great an Expence for the Supporting my Interest.
And after other lofty Expressions, his Majesty concludes thus;

“I am ever, with the most sincere Affection, Respect and
“Gratitude,

Madam,

My Sister,

Your most Affectionate Brother,

CHARLES.

From the Camp at
Senia before Bar-
celona, Octob. 22.
1705.

No

No body can say but his Catholick Majesty expresses himself here like a Man of Honour, and like a Prince that had on his Mind a deep Impression of what had been done.

Nor can it be denied but that as these Obligations were laid on him, not by the Queen only, but by the whole *British* Nation, the Debt descends with the Crown, and the Gratitude becomes due to His present Majesty in Right of the *British* Nation; and we shall see it still more plainly, when I shall give you the Account of the Blood and Treasure expended by this Nation in particular, for the Service of this very Prince; where we shall find that it cost *England* the Blood of almost sixty thousand Soldiers, and above eight Millions of Treasure to support his Cause in *Spain* only; and that even his being elected Emperor was owing to the powerful Influence of the *British* Interest at that time; all which are at large express'd in the Tract just now quoted, *Pag. 41. as follows, viz.*

An Account of Troops as well raised in England as in Spain and Portugal, for the Service of King Charles III, at the proper Expence, and in the Pay of England.

The First Shipping, 1703.

	<i>Men.</i>
Shipped from <i>England</i> with Duke <i>Schomburgh</i> - -	8000
Raised in <i>Portugal</i> at the <i>English</i> Expence - - -	13000
1704.	
With the Earl of <i>Galway</i> - - - -	4519
1705.	
With the Earl of <i>Peterborough</i> - - - -	5000
<i>Ditto</i> from <i>Gibraltar</i> - - - -	2000
Recruits - - - -	750
More Regiments the same Year - - - -	4170
Recruits - - - -	1240
1706.	
With the Earl <i>Rivers</i> - - - -	9359
1709.	
This Year - - - -	8676
Recruits - - - -	800
1710.	
Sent to <i>Portugal</i> - - - -	8801
	66315
	Be-

Besides these, *England* Paid, Hired, Raised or Sent at their Proper Expence, the following Troops.

1706.		<i>Men.</i>
Raised by King <i>Charles</i> in <i>Catalonia</i> and paid by the Queen of <i>Great-Britain</i>	}	6000
Form'd there after the Battel of <i>Almanza</i> in <i>English</i> Pay	}	2800
Paid more from <i>Italy</i>	-	6600
1708 Sent from <i>Italy</i> , but paid by <i>Great-Britain</i>	-	5000
1709 <i>Ditto</i>	-	4000
1710 <i>Ditto</i>	-	4690
		29090
		66315
		95405

So that in the whole, here was ninety five thousand four hundred and five Men actually landed in *Portugal* and *Spain*, or raised there, and all paid at the Expence of *Great-Britain*. Well might the King express himself under great Obligations to this GENEROUS NATION.

Let us now see a Sketch of the Expence which *England* was at in particular for this Service; and this we have in the same Tract, *Page* 42, taken from the appropriating Votes in the several Parliaments of those Years, as follows:

An Account of the Expence of the War in Spain, as it was published in a Book, Entitled, Imperial Gratitude, &c.

The Alliance with *Portugal* in Behalf of King *Charles* III. was in the Year 1703.

	l.	s.	d.
Money for the Service the first Year, there being no Parliamentary Provision	} 162478	05	02
More added to the same Year, provided for by Parliament 1705	} 68549	19	06
1704 Allowed by Parliament for the War with <i>Spain</i> , in Defence of K. <i>Charles</i> III.	} 326481	11	00
Expended more the same Year	-	21659	09 00
1705 Appointed by Parliament for the same Service	} 476727	15	10
1706 <i>Ditto</i>	-	726740	15 10
1707 <i>Ditto</i>	-	998322	11 10
1708 <i>Ditto</i>	-	1248956	12 02 ½
1709 <i>Ditto</i>	-	1217083	00 04
1710 <i>Ditto</i>	-	1276035	16 02
1711 } Not settl'd at the publishing that Book,	} 2075000	00	00
1712 } but the Author takes it by Proportion at	}		
Total, in Sterling Money,		8183035	16 10 ½

These things, says the Author, would hardly seem creditable, were not the Vouchers ready to confirm the Particulars, and to prove every Part of them; and he adds, ' That after such an immense Expence of Blood and Treasure laid out in his Service, it would have been very Grateful and Honourable, and perhaps but Reasonable, that His Majesty should have written one Letter more, to assure Her Majesty, He will think now of some Means to pay, or secure the Payment of, those immense Sums which the Queen had laid out to assist him.

The same Book gives a particular Account of his Majesty's being besieged in the City of *Barcelona*, and of the Distress he was reduced to; gives Copies of the pressing Letters which the King wrote to Her Majesty for Succours, and the Account of the timely Deliverance obtained by the Assistance of the *British* Fleet and Troops in raising the Siege, and causing the *French* Army to retire with Disgrace; which adds to the Account, and heightens the Obligation that his Majesty acknowledged himself to be under before.

After this, the Death of the Emperor *Joseph* happen'd; and then all the Confederates, but *England* in particular, made the most powerful Instances among the Princes of *Germany* to procure the Election of the King of *Spain*; and carried it for his Majesty against all the Intrigues of the *French* Court, and the particular Application of the Electors of *Bavaria* and *Cologne*.

This finished the Fortunes of his Catholick Majesty, and advanced him to the highest Degree of Human Glory that this World can bestow.

Let us cease here a little 'till the Accession of his present Majesty to the Throne of *Great-Britain*, and besides all the Obligations laid on his Imperial Majesty of another kind, of which I have no room to enlarge in this Place, we may at once look into the Quadruple Alliance; a Treaty which, by the Interest and Influence of his *Britanick* Majesty, was calculated for the particular Service of the Emperor; the King of *France* was brought to assist by his Arms to bring the King of *Spain* to hearken to Reason, and to come to the Terms of the Truce, and *Spain* pressed by the Arms of *France* did consent to put an end to the War.

Without the powerful Fleet of the King of *Great-Britain* opening the Sea to the Imperialists, and shutting it up from the *Spaniards*, defeating and taking their whole Fleet, the Imperialists had never been able to have taken the Kingdom of *Sicily*: So that it is to the glorious Arms of His Majesty

jeſty that the *Spaniards* were driven out of that Kingdom, and the Emperor put in Poſſeſſion of it.

Now bring all this down to the preſent State of Things, May we not civilly examine for which of all theſe Acts of generous Aſſiſtance of the *Britiſh* Nation, I ſay for which of them it is that the Court of *Vienna*, or the Emperor, has prohibited the *Engliſh* Commerce at the Fair of *Meffina*; the very City King *George* may be ſaid to have conquered for him; for which of them he has invaded our *East-India* Trade, and prohibited all our *Engliſh* Manufactures in the great Market of *Lintz* by Sound of Trumpet?

May we not ſay, Is this *Imperial Gratitude*? Is this a ſuitable Return to His Majeſty, and to the powerful Efforts of a Generous Nation, for the Intereſt and Honour of the Emperor? Is it what His Majeſty might reaſonably expect, or what the *Britiſh* Nation had Reaſon to look for? Or is this the Way the Princes of that Part of the World pay their Debts of Honour, and balance the great Obligations which they receive from one another? We hope we might ſay this without Offence.

Let the Language of His late Imperial Majeſty's Letters to the late Queen, to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and to the States of *Holland*, at the naming his Grandſon to the Succeſſion of *Spain*, and after the Battel of *Blenheim*; and the Language of His preſent Imperial Majeſty when ſhut up in *Barcelona*, and in Danger of being carried in Triumph to *Madrid*, be all conſidered, when he was every Hour expecting a general Affault, and begged of Sir *George Rook* to come ſpeedily to his Relief:

I ſay, let theſe which are at hand to produce, and which, had I room, I could give you at large, to illuſtrate this Part, be conſidered; May we not compare them with the Terms now uſed in Return to the frequent Memorials and Reſentments of the *Britiſh* and *Dutch* Ambaſſadors at *Madrid*, claiming a juſt and friendly Performance, not of Promiſes only and grateful Remembrances of generous and kind Actions done, but of ſolemn Treaties and Leagues; Treaties of Peace and Commerce, Friendſhip and good Underſtanding, wherein Limits of Trade as well as Dominion are ſettled and adjusted? Let the haughty Answers and the Expoſtulations of Reſentment, which Fame ſays were returned by the Court of *V-----* to Memorials framed with the utmoſt Reſpect, be all Duly conſidered and compared as above, and what ſhall we conclude from it; what can we ſay! except that perhaps this is the Meaning of that hitherto Miſunderſtood Expression, that difficult and doubtful Thing called IMPERIAL GRATITUDE.

From

From all which however, we may flatter our selves, that for the future, the *British* Nation and their generous Princes, will consider very well how they oblige Emperors again, beyond their Power of Requitall; and how they spend Eight Millions to set a Prince upon a Throne, that shall turn the Arms of that very Power, they gave him against the Interest of his Benefactors.

But Heaven, whose Impartial Justice the *British* Nation and their injur'd Sovereign appeal to in all this, will no doubt soon discover its Sentiments of these things; and the Power God has put into his Majesty's Hands can never be better employed, than to humble the Insolence of such Powers, as think themselves above the Natural Laws of Friendship and Gratitude, and regard no Justice, but as it conforms with their Interest, and encreases their Power.

C H A P. VI.

Of the Spaniards being Aggressors in the War; their Pretences, how trifling; their Power, how far from being formidable; and of what the Consequences of a War may be, as well to them as to us.

IF we may judge by the Appearance of Things, there are two Articles in this Forwardness of the *Spaniards* to Quarrel, which make it very preposterous on their Side.

First, That they are as ill able to manage a Quarrel (with *England* especially) as any Nation in *Europe*.

Secondly, They have as little Pretence to make a Quarrel of it.

1. As to their Ability to manage a War with us, I have spoken of it in particular already; and lest I should be told, 'tis time enough to boast *when we put our Armour off*, I am content to stay 'till then; and let the *Spaniards* count their Gain when they have had their Fill of a War, so I say no more of that now.

2. As to their Pretences, or the Causes of Quarrel, I can find but two; that is to say, all that I can meet with on their own Part, or that they so much as pretend to, may be reduced to two Heads.

First,

First, The Affair of the *British* Squadron lying before *Porto Belo*; or, as they commonly express it, Blocking up their Ports, and in it their Plate-Fleet.

Secondly, The *English* refusing to restore *Port-Mahon* and *Gibraltar*.

As for the First, they make a great Noise of it; complain of its being an Insulting their Coast, an open Violation of Friendship, an Interruption of Commerce, and an Act of Hostility, with much more of that Kind; and upon this we are now told they draw together their Armies, Hover about *Gibraltar*, (tho' they are able to do very little to it) talk of Building new Fortifications to incommode the Bay or Port, buy Ships of War, and, in a word, show by many weak Advances that they resolve upon a War.

Certainly the *Spaniards* have very wrong Notions of their own Strength, or else we are ill inform'd about it; and particularly how ill able they are with all their Strength, tho' it were double to what it is, to annoy the *English*, or defend themselves against us.

That they are not equal by Sea is very evident; 'tis no Boasting to say they cannot look us in the Face upon the Salt-water; all the Naval Force of *Spain*, were it brought together, and had they the greatest Liberty given them they could desire to bring it together, could not fight a Squadron of twenty *British Third Rates*; and this I say is far from being a Bluster, since it was proved at *Cape Passaro*, where the *Spaniards* had the best Fleet, and the biggest Ships that they have ever seen at Sea of their Own for a hundred Years past.

What then are the *Spaniards* doing? Do they reflect that *Great Britain*, *France*, and the *States-General*, the three greatest Marine Powers in the World, are in Alliance, and may come to act in Conjunction in this War, if there was any Occasion for it, against one (alas how Impotent!) single Power of *Spain*? Have they considered what they are able to do against Three such Powers United, the weakest of whom are able to blow all the Ships of *Spain* out of the Sea, and make them not dare to stir out of their Ports? What can the King of *Spain*, or the Council of *Spain*, think of such an unequal War? and what Encouragement can their Officers and Seamen have to engage in their Service, or embark in their Ships, where they are so sure to be beaten?

2. Have the *Spaniards* consider'd, that they have a vast unguarded Coast for above a thousand Miles lying upon the Sea, as well on the Side of the Ocean, as in the *Mediterranean*, from *St. Sebastian* at the bottom of the Bay of *Biscay*, to *Viana*

Viana on the Edge of *Galitia*, and from the River *Guadiana* on the side of *Andalusia*, to the Mouth of the *Straits*, and thence to the Bay of *Roses*, on the Frontiers of *Roussillon*, in the Dominion of *France*.

The Length of this Coast is at least twelve hundred Miles: Not all the Force of *Spain*, nay, scarce all the Men in *Spain*, were they arm'd and form'd into Regiments, could guard such an extended Coast, so as that they could prevent its being continually harras'd and insulted by an Enemy that is thus superior at Sea; and who can appear now on this side, now on that, and whose Motions it is impossible any Troops on Shore can follow or observe.

What strange Havock could the Allies, thus arm'd, and Superior at Sea, make upon the Coast of *Spain*? and whether they ever landed or no, their very hovering upon the Coast is Alarm enough to keep the whole Country waking, and hurry and fatigue their Soldiers to Death, by hasty Marches in a hot Climate; so that the Troops would be ruin'd as effectually, as if they had been beaten in the Field.

As to their blustering about *Gibraltar*, and threatening to besiege it with twenty five thousand Men, I may speak of it by itself; But let us look a little off of their Military Part, to that of their Commerce.

The first Attack they have made upon us there, (for there also they are Aggressors) is their publick prohibiting the wearing our Manufacture in their Country; *Prohibiting the Importation follows of Course*. How ill they are able to furnish Manufactures, by the Industry of their own People, to supply the Place of ours, I have mention'd already; but let me ask the *Spaniards* a few Trading Questions upon this Occasion.

Trading Nations never prohibit the Exportation of their own Goods, whether the Growth of their Country, or the Labour of their People. To Prohibit Trade with *England*, is to prohibit the Exportation of their own Growth, which by the way is the main Wealth of their Country; I mean as to its home Product: And can they live without the Trade with *England*?

Have they consider'd what they shall do, if *England* finding the *Spaniards* refuse to take off their Cloths and Stuffs, their Woollen Manufacture of all Kinds, and their other needful Exports, should refuse to take off their Wines, Brandies, Oil, Raisins, Oranges, Lemons, Almonds, Soap, *Spanish* Wool? and if *France* should refuse their Wool and Iron, and all their other Produce? They need not perhaps forbid their Subjects the

wearing any Silks or Stuffs of *England* or *France*, they would be naked enough; for they would soon have no Money to buy them, and must be glad to buy Blankets and Woad-mill of the *Moors* of *Africk*, to cover them.

Xeres de la Fronteira is a Place near the Coast, in the Bay between *Cadiz* and *Sevil*; that Country is full of Vines, and they tell us that they make sixty thousand Pipes or Buts of Sherrey every Year, and most of this is brought away by the *English*, *Dutch* and *Hamburgers*; but if the *English* and *Dutch* refuse it, how will all that Country live? how will the Vines run wild, and be ruin'd, the People starve, and have no Employment, and the Lands lye waste?

The like is to be said of their Oil and Soap at *Sevil*, of which the Quantity is exceeding great, so that they have one Wood opposite to *Sevil* nine Leagues in Circuit, all of Olive-Trees, from which they tell us they make sixteen thousand Quintals of Soap in a Year; but unless they can sell off this Soap and the Oil to *England*, *Holland*, &c. all will be waste, for the Quantity they can consume at home is next to nothing.

The *Canary Islands* have no other considerable Market for their Wines but to *England*, except what casual Ships take off, going to *Africa* or *America*; if the *English* forsake the Place, and leave off the Trade, those Islands are undone; and the *Spaniards* themselves have always been so sensible of this, that when there has been a War between the two Nations, the King of *Spain* has always allow'd the *Canary* Trade to be open to *England*, and to enjoy as it were a Neutrality, that their Wines may be taken off.

From thence let us go on to the South Coast of *Spain* in the *Mediterranean*, and there is first *Malaga*, a City flourishing and rich; the Customs they say pay the King of *Spain* eighty thousand Pieces of Eight a Year for that one Port. But with whom is their Trade? I insist that five Parts of six of their whole Trade is with the *English*; the Wines, especially those we now call *white Mountain*, (call'd so, because they grow on the Sides of the Hills, on all the North Part of *Granada*) who Buys them, and where are they Drank? The *French* buy no Wines, the *Italians* buy no Wines, the *Moors* are all *Mahometans*, they drink none; none but the *English*, and perhaps one Ship or two at most to *Holland*. Their Raisons, called *Malaga* Raisins, come almost all to *England*; their Lemons go indeed to *Holland*, and the Neighbouring Coasts; but three times as many to *England*, as to all other Places; and what will the Loss of such a Trade be to them? How will the Country be ruin'd, and the People starv'd, if they cannot put off their Wine and Fruit? The

The Trade at *Alicant* is much the same as at *Malaga*, only their Wines are richer; such as *Tent*, and red *Alicant*, bought usually to give Strength and Colour to other Wines. Their Raisins are the best in the World, and are Ship'd off yearly in a prodigious Quantity; but all chiefly to *England*.

The same Trade continues a long way on the Coast of *Valentia*: Upon the *Catalonian* Coast there is the same Trade for Wines, viz. at *Bene Carlo*, *Barcellona*, and other Ports; but all for *England*; also some Brandy is brought from thence; and who will have the Loss, if all these Wines are left upon their Hands?

It must be the most ignorant thing in the World of its kind, to have the *Spaniards* prohibit wearing our Manufactures, when they have no other to wear; and to stop the Trade to *England*, when they have no other Market for their General Produce.

But I return now to the Affair of a War: What is *Spain* a doing? They tell us they are drawing an Army together to attack *Gibraltar*; but do the *Spaniards* consider two things?

First, That *Gibraltar* is so situated, that it cannot be attack'd? Do they remember that the Marshal *de Tesse* sent the King of *France* Word, that to continue the Siege of *Gibraltar* would but ruin the whole Infantry, and that forty thousand Men could never take it by Land?

Secondly, Do they know, that as soon as they begin this Enterprize, they may expect the *French* with two Armies upon their Frontiers, one on the Side of *Catalonia*, and the other on the Side of *Navarr*? and that by drawing their Troops off to the remotest Angle of their vast Country of *Spain*, they must leave their Frontiers open to the *French*? and that it will be very hard to bring them back upon an Emergence, when they are at least five hundred Miles off?

But we are answered, That 'tis a Mistake; the King of *Spain* is not forming the Siege of *Gibraltar*, he has only ordered a Fort, or some Forts, to be built in proper Places, and upon his own Lands, which is no Breach of the Peace; for sure he may have the Liberty to do what he pleases upon his own Lands.

We cannot give an Answer to this here, because we do not know how far the Fact is true, and we have it yet by Report only. But this we may venture to say.

If the *Spaniards* build, or fortifie in the Neighbourhood of *Gibraltar*, or on the Bay, or Coast about it, as is reported, 'tis either to incommode the Town and Port of *Gibraltar*, or it is not; if it is not, and there is no Reason to take umbrage at it, or

complain of it; then I suppose we shall not complain of it, for *England* will certainly take no Offence, where no Cause of Offence is given.

But if this is done with Design, either to Streighten and Block up the Town, or to incommode the Navigation of the Port and the Commerce; This is in a plain Sense an Act of Hostility, and can be taken for no other; and Force is not to be Complain'd of only, but to be Repell'd.

Not but that even in this, the *Spaniards* seem to be rather showing their Teeth, than any thing else. Nor does it appear that they are able to do any considerable Injury to the Port, and none at all to the Town of *Gibraltar*.

The Bay of *Gibraltar* is at least five Miles over at the Entrance, that is, from Cape to Cape; and 'tis not less than three or four Miles over, within the Bay, opposite to the Town, and where the old Town of *Gibraltar* stood.

The Depth of Water is such, that the largest Ships may ride almost any where; and they have from 30 to 50 Fathom Water, right against, and near to the Entrance of the Mole, and in the Offing they find no Ground at 100 Fathom, as appears by the Plan. Whatever the *Spaniards* can pretend to do by Fortifying the opposite Shore, I leave to the Judgment of the Publick; as I do, whether they ought to be allowed to Fortify there, or no.

As to any thing they can do by Land to *Gibraltar*, I believe the Government are in no great Pain about it; only that they will take Care to put such a Garrison into it, as may give the *Spaniards* occasion to be more apprehensive of Disturbance from the Town, than the Town from them.

The Town is a *Peninsula*: 'tis to be attack'd no way in Form, but by that small Neck of Land which joyns it to the Continent of *Spain*; and there the Access to it is Naturally so difficult, and by the Addition of Art made so impracticable, that I believe the Garrison are in no Pain about what the *Spaniards* can do that way. Upon the Whole, I may say of *Gibraltar*, as the *French* formerly said of *Dunkirk*,

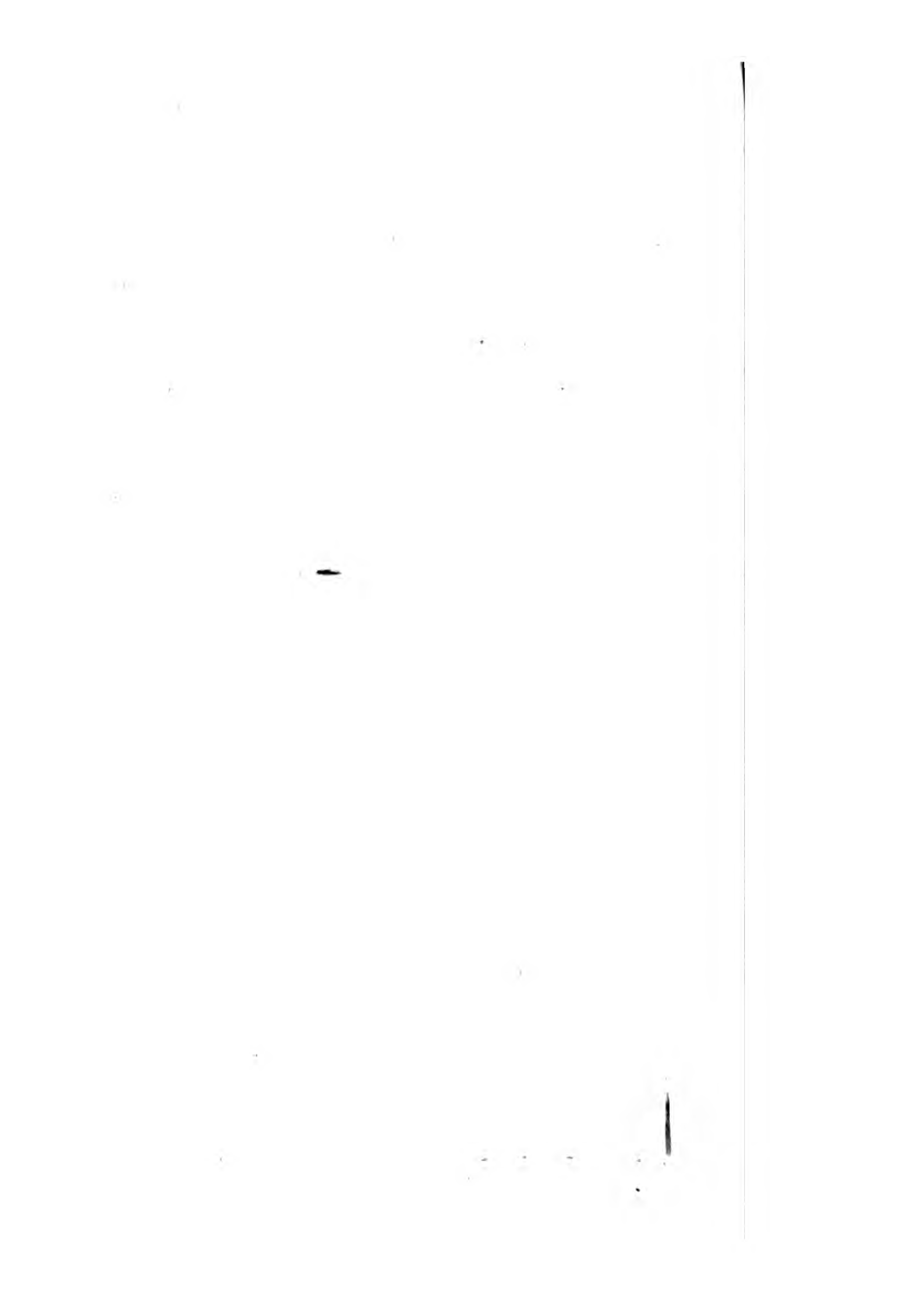
Il est une Place Terrible.

For the farther Information of the Reader, and to make what I have said be perfectly Intelligible, I have here given a Plan of the Situation, as well of the Bay, as of the Town, and of the opposite Coast; by which the Reader will judge, whether the *Spaniards* Act like Men in their Senses, or no, in pretending to attack the Place, while at the same Time they know they are not Masters of the Sea, or able to hinder its being relieved as often as there is Occasion.

CON-

A. Entrance
B. Variation
C. Riding for
D. Ditto for
E. No Ground
F. Road of old
G. Town of old
H. Road to Cape
I. The Ballast
K. Cape Cabre
L. The Channel
Straits.
M.M. Two small
N. An old Town





CONCLUSION.

HAVING thus observed the angry impotent Disposition of the Neighbouring Powers; in the *Vienna Treaty*, for a War; it remains to inquire, What our Share may be in it; and what *England* has to be frighted and terrify'd at, among all those Blusters and high Words.

For my Part, I have considered, with all possible Gravity, every Part of the Thing, and I can see no Thunder in all these Clouds; the gathering Vapours may portend some Storm, but I don't see it can reach us; I wish other People would examine it too.

The utmost I can see in it all, is, that they may put us to some Expence, and that is (in its Kind) a Grievance, 'tis true; but let the *Spaniards* look out sharp; 'tis Tea to One but we may make our selves whole at their Expence, one Way or other. Now and then a Galeon or two falling in our Way, may make us Amends for a whole Expedition; and we must have worse Luck than ordinary, if we chop upon none of them.

In the first Place; Their Privateering will not give us much Uneasiness in our Trade; a Thing which was always our great Inconvenience in a War, either with the *French* or *Dutch*. There are but three Places which will be against us in this War, where Privateers of any Note are usually fitted out.

1. The Port of *Ostend*.
2. The *Biscayners*, that is to say, the Ports of *St. Sebastian* and *St. Andrew*.
3. The *Majorkins* in the *Mediterranean*.

The First of these have been considerable, in former Wars. But will be now so surrounded (all the Ports of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Holland*, being shut against them, and all the Ships of those Powers being their Enemies) that I do not see how they will dare to stir out; or if they should take a Prize, how they would be able to carry it home; the utmost they could do, would be to Cruise upon the Coast of *Spain*, that they might have the Ports of *Galitia*, or of *Andalusia*, for their Retreat; and that would not be so fatal to us, but that we might venture them there. But all our Channel Trade, Coal Trade, and Coast Trade, would be very quiet and undisturb'd; which three Articles were the great Sufferers in the last

last Wars with *France*, and are generally so in any War with the Marine Powers on this Side of the World.

The *Biscayans*, again, have the same Restraint, in its Degree; for as the *French* are at their Door, and our Trade lying so distant as the Mouth of the Channel, they must go a great way for Purchase, and have a long Run back again for Safety, when they take a Prize; in which Case, 'tis great Odds but they may be met with, by either *French* or *English*.

In the late War, when they had all the *French* Coast to befriend them, and could run into any of their Ports, either in Stress of Weather, or when chas'd, or when favour'd with a good Prize, then indeed their Risque was not so great, and sometimes they made a good Hand of it. But I am much mistaken if they will pretend to fit out many Privateers upon all the Coasts, as the Case is like to stand with them now.

3. The *Majorkins* then are the only People left; and their Roving may be confined to the *Mediterranean*; where there are three Things to be observed, which makes our Trade pretty secure:

1. The *Majorkin* Rovers are all small, they never carry above Eight, to Twelve, and Sixteen Guns, being rather Sloops, and a kind of Galley-built Vessels, than Ships; made for nimble Sailing, and Roving also; and they dare not attack Ships of good Force.

2. Most of our Ships Trading into those Seas, are Ships of good Force, and particularly in Case of a War, will be so; from Twenty-four to Thirty-six Guns, and will seldom go without Convoy neither; so that the *Majorkins* will very rarely venture upon them.

3. *Majorca* is so Situated between *Gibraltar* and *Port-Mahon*, that they will find it very hard to keep the Seas, without being intercepted by some of our Men of War, who will be perfectly Masters of the Sea, and be always Cruising between the Straits Mouth and that Island; and also Westward, between the Island and the Coast of *Italy*.

Thus, I think, we need not be very anxious for our Trade, on Account of their Privateers. Some few may indeed appear in the Bay of *Cadiz*, fitted out at *Port St. Mary*, *Sevil*, *S. Lucar*, and those Places, and may Cruise off of the Southward Cape, and the Coast of *Portugal*. But 'tis hoped we may have so good a Look-out there for Galeons, and such People, that the Privateers will find but little Good upon that Coast.

We

We are told, indeed, that the *Spaniards* will have Privateers and Cruisers among our Islands in the *West-Indies*, in the Gulph of *Florida*, and on the Coast of *Carolina* and *Virginia*; these may, indeed, harbour at the *Havana*, *St. Augustine*, and *St. Domingo*, and have several Skulking Places on the North Side of the Gulph of *Mexico*: But as our Squadron in those Seas is already very strong, and likely to be stronger, it may be no difficult Matter to keep those Seas clear; and perhaps the *Havana* may not always be a Retreat for them, as strong as it is; of which more may be said when a War (if it is to be a War) is actually begun.

Having thus stated the Case, as to Privateering, let us examine the other great Articles, in which the Enemy think they can wound us; and they are, I think, but two.

1. Prohibitions of Commerce.

2. Alarms about the Pretender.

1. Prohibitions of Commerce. It is true, every Prohibition of Commerce to a Trading Country, as this is, may in some particular Case or other be a Loss, as it stops some of the Channels of our Trade, by which our great Vent of Woollen Manufacture in particular, is circulated and extended in the World. But it is also the particular Happiness of our Woollen Manufacture, that the several Countries where it is carried and sold, are generally in as much want of the Goods, or of the Sale and Consumption of those Goods which *England* takes in Return for them, as we can be of the Sale of ours; and in particular, the King of *Spain* is eminent for both these Circumstances; as has been mentioned already.

The Consequence of this has always been, that either by Connivance, or by the Interposition of Neutral Nations, Trade has always found private Channels of Conveyance; and the Merchants find Ways and Means to furnish themselves on one Hand, and dispose of their Product on the other; so that such Prohibitions serve indeed to make Things sell for a better Price than ordinary, but seldom put a full Stop to the Trade. Were it so, I dare venture to affirm, *Spain* would be the greatest Loser by the Prohibition, besides being far from the best able to bear it.

What Lengths the *Imperialists* may go in Prohibitions of Commerce, we yet do not see; but should they do their utmost (as I said above) they would do their own Subjects much more Damage than they can do us. And I appeal to the Experience of the Men of Commerce for Proof of the Fact.

First,

First, Suppose a Stop of Commerce with *Flanders*, that is to say, with the *Imperial Netherlands*, which is what some People seem to apprehend.

It is true, they may stop the Importation of our Woollen Manufacture thither, tho' with all their Prohibitions Trade will find Vents there too, as well as it has done in *France*, and other Countries; and 'tis presum'd, the Prohibition must be as universal as the War, that is to say, with *Holland*, *France*, and *Great Britain* all together; and how the *Flemings* will find their Account in that, is for them to judge, not for me.

But to speak to it only as to *England*. Pray who will be the greatest Sufferers in such a Prohibition? *England*, for want of the Vent of some Woollen Manufacture (tho' indeed not very considerable) which are usually sent to *Flanders*? Or the *Low Countries*, for want of the Sale of their *Cambricks* and fine *Brussels* and *Mechlin* Lace? of both which so exceeding a Demand is made here, by the Humour and Fancy of our Ladies running into the Wear and Use of those two Articles, and the Price of which is of late so extravagant, that the Ballance of Trade between the two Countries is evidently to the Advantage of the *Flemings*, and that in a prodigious Degree. So that I cannot but say, a Prohibition of Commerce between them, would be at this Time one of the kindest Things the Emperor could do for us, and we shall have no Reason to be sorry or anxious about it, whenever it begins. Our only Business (at least I think so) would be, whenever they make the Prohibition on their Side, to take care it be duly Executed on our Side.

There is but one Part of the World more, where the Emperor can make any considerable Prohibition of Commerce with us by Sea, and that is in *Italy*; and I am perswaded his Council, if they are Men of Common Understanding in Business, will never advise his Imperial Majesty to take such a Step. Let us examine the Particulars briefly:

This Prohibition can only extend to the Ports of the Kingdom of *Naples*, in the West and South Side of *Italy*, and the Ports of *Messina*, *Palermo*, &c. in *Sicily*. In return for which, he first of all stops the *English* taking off the Oil of *Gallipoli*, and then the Thrown Silk of *Naples* and *Sicily*; and at the same Time as he has not Power to prohibit the *English* Commerce at *Leghorn*, the Manufacture of *Great Britain* will be only carried thither, instead of being carried to *Messina* and *Naples*, and the Merchants will send thither to buy them; for we are assur'd they must and will have them.

In a Word, *Great Britain* laughs at their Prohibitions: Nor can the War, with which they threaten us, be any way fatal to our Trade, no, not in any one Place.

I might say something here to the Stop this War might seem to give to the Vent of *English* Manufactures in the *Spanish West-Indies*: But if I should say, on the other Hand, that the *Spaniards* seem really not to know what they are doing in that Particular; and that it is more likely, if they don't consider it in time, that *England* may open a Door there to the Commerce, which it may never be in the *Spaniards* Power to shut up; and that a direct Trade from *England* to *New Spain*, may be a full Satisfaction to us for all their other Attempts upon our Trade, that they either have made, or can make to our Prejudice; I should say nothing but what I could very effectually explain

2. As to their Menacing us with the Pretender; the Damage to Trade being my present Subject, I shall say little to it here: It is so remote from them as well as from us, they are so little able to do any thing in it, and the Creature himself has so little in him to make him Formidable, that I think it hardly worth naming.

Yet one Thing I cannot but observe in this (otherwise insignificant) Thing, call'd the Pretender; viz. That as it was in the Time of one of the greatest *English* Monarchs who ever wore the Crown, I mean *Henry VII*, that his Enemies, whenever they had a Mind to make him uneasy, always play'd one Impostor or other upon him, such as *Simnel*, *Perkin Warbeck*, and the like, so they would do now.

Thus whenever any Foreign Power designs to raise Distractions among us, and to Insult the King of *Great Britain* in any Quarter whatever, they will always play the Pretender upon us. If the King of *Spain* has the least View of Resentment depending against *England*, presently the late Duke of *Ormond* comes to Court, and has an Audience of his Catholick Majesty. And the late Earl Marischal, a *Scots* Refugee (and who it seems is in Commission under the King of *Spain*) is ordered to set aside his Journey to *Andalusia*, and the like; as if by these remote Motions, *Great Britain* was to be Alarmed, and that it was to be understood, that something was doing, or contriving to be done on that Side, in Favour of that despicable Interest, call'd *Jacobitism*.

I remember we read in the Story of *Henry VII*, That when that first Imposture was Quelled, and *Simnel* (who
I was

was play'd upon that Prince as a Pretender) fell into his Hand; instead of putting him to Death (as Justice indeed demanded) the King, to let his Enemies see how he contemned the Attempt, took the poor miserable Thing and set him in the Royal Kitchen to turn the Spit, and lick the Trenchers, despising thereby not the Person only, but the Party.

The Inference I think is just; *England* has so little to fear from the Pretender, or from the Nest of Pretenders now in *Italy*, for it seems there is a new Succession of Pretenders in the Hands of the Pope and his Priests; I say, *England* has so little to fear from them, that the greatest Contempt is to be put upon all these little Motions; and they ought to give us no other Alarm, than only to take care to keep Jacobitism down at home, to keep them in the same State of Mortification and Humiliation that they are already in, and then not to fear their Agents from abroad.

In a word, it seems to be the Case, as I have already said in *Spain*; now tho' Jacobitism is not so inconsiderable as not to be worth our setting our Foot upon it, yet 'tis far from being so considerable as to make us afraid of it. No Thief is so inconsiderable as that we need not shut our Doors and bar our Windows when we go to Bed, to keep them out; but all the Thieves in the Nation are not so considerable, but that when we have fastened our Doors, and the Watch is set, we can sleep in quiet, and defy them.

Again, I must say, it is a Piece of Kindness to the Jacobites themselves, who as they are a Deluded and Imposed upon People, call for some Pity from even the Government which they offend; and the kindest thing the Government of *Great-Britain* can do for them, is to take away all their Hopes, foreclose their Expectations, and show them how impossible the Resurrection of their Party is, under the present Dispositions; and how effectually every Back-Door is barred up against them, that so their Hopes being entirely destroyed, they may learn to despair, and no more precipitate themselves into certain Ruin, in attempting to revive a Cause that is not to be revived.

Besides, it is worth their while to reflect upon what Foot it is, that these Foreign People bring their lost Cause into the Question; namely, for nothing but to play it upon the Nation, if possible, in the Nature of a Diversion, or to give an Alarm, reserving it always in *Petto*, to give it up whenever they are reduc'd to the Necessity of making a Peace; and that even
the

the greatest Prince that ever espoused them, sacrificed their whole Interest, when he found it needful to make a Peace at their Expence.

I had purposed here to have entes'd into a useful, and a serious Discourse, concerning the Expedition to *Porto Belo*; and the Posting the *British* Squadron under Admiral *Hofier*, at the Islands call'd *Les Bastimento's*, on the Coast of the *Isthmus* of *America*; and to have given a like Plan of the Situation of those Islands, as I have here of *Gibraltar*, and how they respect the Harbour of *Porto Belo*; But as this would require also, that I should consider the great Advantages which lye before us in a formal and further Prosecution of that Attempt; and how *Great-Britain* in the carrying on this War, may give a new Turn to the Commerce of that Part of the World, infinitely to the Advantage of these Islands, and yet without giving Umbrage to the Allies, by making any Attempts to seize upon the Country it self; and that I purpose to handle that Subject by it self, as soon as the publick Affairs discover themselves, so as to make it acceptable; for that Reason, and also, because I have not room to speak effectually to it here, I refer it to another Occasion.

F I N I S.