

Promises and a great deal of Brandy: That *Coke* bid him several Times be sure he did not strike him instead of *Crispe*: That he came at the Whistle: *Coke* took him by the Sleeve, pull'd him up to *Crispe* behind, and then steps back a Step or two; that on the first or second Stroke, *Crispe*, who, as *Woodburn* said, was never heard to swear before, said Damn it, by Way of Surprise. Does he swear, says *Coke*, do his Business. *Coke* was there till three or four Blows were struck; and that he, *Woodburn*, left him for dead. That the Day after *Woodburn* was first examin'd, *Coke* came to him, and said, *Woodburn*, you have kept to your Story well, go about your Work, and look bold; for if you look down, they'll suspect you. We shall be examin'd again and again perhaps; but keep you to your Text, and I'll bear you out. We shall have him another Time.

Coke, in his Defence, only said, that it was a very Penal Act, and that no body had ever been executed upon it, and insisted, that his Intention was not to maim or disfigure, but to kill; and pray'd his Counsel, who were *Mr. Price* of *Colchester*, and *Mr. Harvey* of *Bury*, might have Leave to speak to that. But he was answer'd, that his Intention must be left to the Jury: That he might have two Intentions, to murder and to maim; and that tho' one was not executed, and the other was, that it was impossible to intend to murder, in that Manner, or with that Instrument, without an Intention to maim or disfigure; he that intends the End, intends the necessary Means; but concluded, that this was a Fact to be left to the Jury. The Jury in a Quarter of an Hour return'd, and brought them both in Guilty. The next Day they were brought to the Bar, and Sentence of Death pass'd upon them.

Upon the Trial, a violent Suspicion appear'd, that *Coke* had before this hir'd *Woodburn* to poison *Mr. Crispe's* Child; and being ask'd concerning it at the Place of Execution, he would not confess the Poysoning, only said, 'twas so long ago, he could not remember it: But *Woodburn* did confess, that he gave *Mr. Crispe's* Child two Sugar-Plums by *Coke's* Order, and that he dy'd some short Time after. They were both executed on the 31st of March; *Coke* at Seven in the Morning, *Woodburn* about one in the Afternoon: *Coke* dy'd very fullen, but *Woodburn* emient.

A LIST of all the Peers that have been created, call'd up by Writ in vita Patris, and promoted in their Peerage during this Reign.

Barons 19.

Nicholas Lechmere, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Lechmere.
Matthew Dacy Moreton, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Dacy.
Sir Thomas Parker, <i>Kt.</i>	L. Parker.
George Cholmondeley, L. } Newborough of Ireland }	L. Newborough.
Bennet Sherrard L. Sherrard } of Ireland }	L. Harborough.
Sir Richard Temple, <i>Bar.</i>	L. Cobham.
James Saunderson V. Castleton } of Ireland }	L. Saunderson of Saxby.
Sir Robert Marsham, <i>Bar.</i>	L. Romney.
William Cadogan, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Cadogan.
Thomas Newport, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Torrington.
Sir Richard Onslow, <i>Bar.</i>	L. Onslow.
Thomas Coningsby, L. Co- } ningsby of Ireland }	L. Coningsby.
Gervase Pierpoint, V. Ard- } glass of Ireland }	L. Pierpoint.
Henry Boyle, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Carleton.
Richard Lumley, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Lumley.
Anthony de Grey, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Lucas of Crudwell.
Charles Pawlet, <i>Esq;</i>	L. St. John of Basing.
Peregrine Bertie, <i>Esq;</i>	L. Willoughby of Eresby.

Viscounts 10.

Sir George Byng, <i>Bar.</i>	V. Torrington.
Simon Harcourt, L. Harcourt.	V. Harcourt.
John Wallop, <i>Esq;</i>	V. Limington.
Hugh Boscawen, <i>Esq;</i>	V. Falmouth.
Bennet Sherrard, L. Harborough.	V. Sherrard.
Richard Temple, L. Cobham.	V. Cobham.
James Stanhope, <i>Esq;</i>	V. Stanhope.
Sir Henry St. John, <i>Bar.</i>	V. St. John.
James Saunderson, L. Saunderson.	V. Castleton.
Henry O'Brien, E. of Tho- } mond in Ireland }	V. Tadcaster.

Earls 17.

Thomas Farmer, <i>L. Lemster</i>	<i>E. of Pontefract.</i>
Thomas L. Parker	<i>E. of Macclesfield.</i>
James Saunderson, <i>V. Castleton</i>	<i>E. of Castleton.</i>
Bennet Sherrard, <i>V. Sherrard</i>	<i>E. of Harborough</i>
Thomas Coningsby, <i>L. Coningsby</i>	<i>E. Coningsby.</i>
William Cadogan, <i>L. Cadogan</i>	<i>E. Cadogan.</i>
James Stanhope, <i>V. Stanhope</i>	<i>E. Stanhope.</i>
William Cowper, <i>L. Cowper</i>	<i>E. Cowper.</i>
Talb. Yelverton, <i>V. Longueville</i>	<i>E. of Suffex.</i>
Charles Montague, <i>L. Halifax</i>	<i>E. of Halifax.</i>
Thomas Holles Pelham, <i>L. Pelham</i>	<i>E. of Clare.</i>
John Harvey, <i>L. Harvey</i>	<i>E. of Bristol.</i>
Heneage Finch, <i>L. Guernsey</i>	<i>E. of Aylesford.</i>
Charles Bennet, <i>L. Ossulston</i>	<i>E. of Tankerville.</i>
Lewis Waton, <i>L. Rockingham</i>	<i>E. of Rockingham</i>
James Bridges, <i>L. Chandos</i>	<i>E. of Caernarvon.</i>
Henry Paget, <i>L. Paget & Burton</i>	<i>E. of Uxbridge.</i>

Marquess 1.

Thomas Wharton, <i>E. of Wharton</i>	<i>M. of Wharton and Malmesbury.</i>
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Dukes 12.

Scroop Egerton, <i>E. of Bridgewater</i>	<i>D. of Bridgewater.</i>
Lionel Cranfield Sachville, <i>E. of Dorset and Middlesex</i>	<i>D. of Dorset.</i>
John Campbell, <i>E. of Greenwich, D. of Argyle</i>	<i>D. of Greenwich.</i>
James Bridges, <i>E. of Caernarvon</i>	<i>D. of Chandos.</i>
Charles Montague, <i>E. of Manchester.</i>	<i>D. of Manchester.</i>
Philip Wharton, <i>M. of Wharton</i>	<i>D. of Wharton.</i>
Henry Bentinck, <i>E. of Portland</i>	<i>D. of Portland.</i>
Thomas Holles Pelham, <i>E. of Clare</i>	<i>D. of Newcastle.</i>
Evelyn Pierpoint, <i>M. of Dorchester</i>	<i>D. of Kingston.</i>
Robert Bertie, <i>M. of Lindsey</i>	<i>D. Ancaster & Kesteven.</i>
His Highness Pr. Frederick	<i>D. of Gloucester.</i>
His Highness Ernest Bishop of Osnabrug	<i>D. of York.</i>

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Glaſſes, the oppoſite Bank; but it grows narrower as you go to *Petersbourg*, where it is but about 170 Toiſes, or about 1000 Feet broad, and continues much the ſame to the Lake *Ladoga*. *Schanſterny* is ſituated a League above *Petersbourg*; but that Town is ſo large, that it reaches to that Fort, and has a very large Circuit.

The Town of *Petersbourg* may be divided into two Parts, one of which is in *Terra Firma*, on the Side of *Ingermania*, and the other conſiſts of five large Iſlands. The Admiralty is in one of the ſaid Iſlands, being parted from the Town only by a narrow Canal, in which there are ſeveral Bridges of Communication, and amongſt others, a very fine one, which comes to the Highway or Road from *Petersbourg* to *Moscow*, of which I ſhall farther ſpeak, after having taken Notice of ſome other Particulars.

His Czarish Maſteſty has his two Palaces for Winter and Summer on the Side of *Ingria* or *Ingermerland*; but they have erected in the Iſland on the oppoſite Side, by which runs the great Current or Chanel of the River, the Citadel, the Council-Houſe, the Chancery, the Magazines, and the Exchange for Merchants, which is troubleſome enough, becauſe there is no coming at it but by Boats. They are building very much upon the Iſland *Baſil* or *Waſſis Ooſtrof*. Prince *Menzicoff* has there a Palace near the great River, and all the Lords of the Court are oblig'd to build Stone-Houſes in the ſame Place. They are alſo erecting there a large Edifice, in which Merchants will be oblig'd to have Shops, and ſell their Goods therein.

The Houſes of *Petersbourg* are already computed to exceed 40000, but moſt of them have but one Story: A great many are built with Timber, and thoſe that are built with Stone, are but indifferent: Some others are built with Bricks, cover'd over with Mortar on both Sides: They ſeem at firſt very fine, being built according to a new Architecture, half *French*, and half *Italian*; but when that Mortar falls to Pieces, which happens ſhortly after, by Reaſon of the great Froſts, and other Injuries of the Air, they have but a diſagreeable Aſpect.

The Streets are broad, and in a ſtraight Line; but amongſt others, there is one beginning at the Admiralty, which is above half a League long, in a ſtraight Line, and ſo broad, that two Rows of Trees are planted on both Sides. That Street, or rather the Road which runs on it, has been extended to 50 Leagues Diſtance from *Petersbourg*,

bourg, through Forests and other difficult Places, and the Czar designs to continue it to Moscow.

In our Register, N^o XXIV. Page 345, we gave our Readers an Abstract of the Articles of Peace between Sweden and Muscovy; which redounded to the eternal Honour of the Czar, whose great Actions deserv'd a greater Lustre, and his vast Dominions a more exalted Title than that of Czar, which, for a great while, has been understood to signify only a great Duke, but not a King or an Emperor. Some of his Predecessors did, indeed, claim that last Title, and the Russians pretend, that some of the Roman Emperors allow'd it them: But since we are upon this Subject which makes so great a Noise in the World, it may not be improper to transcribe the following Lines out of Selden's Titles of Honour, Page 20, of the Second Edition.

“ The Dukes also of Muscovy, says that great Man, which anciently used no other Title than *Weliki Knezi*, that is, in Russian, Great Dukes, have had of later Times this Title of Emperor, or Czar, which *Basilius*, that was Duke about 1520, first took to himself; yet this Title he used not to all Princes: In his Letters to the Emperor, the Pope, the King of Swethland and Danemark, the Governors of Prussia and Livonia, and to the Great Turk, he used it, but not to the Polonian; because as my Author says (he quotes *Sigismund* and *Gaguin* in the Margin) neither of those Princes would endure any new Title in each others Letters; altho’ this *Basilius* his Son, *John Basilowitz*, in his Letter to the King of Poland, call’d himself Czar, which is Emperor, or King; but he was never re-saluted from the Polack by any other Name than Great Duke, as *Gaguin* tells us. At this Day his Successors use the Name of Emperor, or *Imperator totius Russe*, or *Magnus Dominus Czar atque Magnus Dux totius Russe*, &c. or *Dei Gratia Imperator & Magnus Dux totius Russe*, atque *Universe Tartaria Regnorum, aliorumque plurimorum Dominiorum Monarchia Muscovitica Dominus & Rex*, as I read in Letters of Safe Conduct given by the last *Demetrius*, who subscrib’d himself, *Demetrius Imperator*; other Princes sometimes give this Emperor the same Title, but the Neighbour Princes style him usually but Great Duke.”

This Affair has receiv'd little Alteration since *Seiden's* Time to our Days: The *Russian* Sovereigns have continu'd to use the Title of Czar and Emperor, which has been given them by the other Sovereigns of *Europe*, as they have had occasion of their Correspondence or Alliances, in Relation to Trade and other Accounts; but now the Czar seems resolv'd to have his Imperial Dignity fully settled and acknowledg'd by all the Princes and States who have Correspondence with him:

On the 22d of *October*, 1721, *Te Deum* was sung with great Solemnity in the Cathedral Church of *Petersbourg*, for the Conclusion of the Peace with *Sweden*; and just before the Ceremony began, the Chancellor of *Russia* made the following Speech to the Czar, in the Name of the Senate and whole *Russian* Nation.

Most gracious Sovereign,
YOUR Majesty's glorious and valiant Conduct, as well in Military as Civil Affairs, have plac'd us, your faithful Subjects, who formerly liv'd in Obscurity, upon the Theatre of Honour before the whole Universe; so that we, having been rais'd, as it were, from nothing, are now number'd among the polite Nations, since your Majesty's glorious and successful Efforts are known, not only to us, but likewise to all the World: How is it then possible for us, to praise sufficiently your Majesty for that glorious Peace procur'd with *Sweden*? But being sensible that your Majesty takes no Delight in Encomiums, we shall not presume to enlarge upon them: However, lest the World should judge us guilty of Ingratitude, we, the Senate, take Liberty, in the Name of all the *Russian* Nation, to request your Majesty, in a most humble Manner, to assume the Titles of *Peter the Great*, *Father of his Country*, *Emperor of all Russia*; which Titles were given many Centuries since to your glorious Predecessors, by the *Roman* Emperor *Maximilian I.* and are now also given to your Majesty by several Potentates. The Title of *Magnus*, or *Great*, has justly been attributed to you for your glorious Actions in Foreign Parts; but the Name of *Father of your Country*, we most humbly presume to give you, after the Example of the ancient *Grecian* and *Roman* Senators, who were wont to bestow such Names on their Monarchs, who, by their illustrious Actions, had render'd themselves famous. We beseech your Majesty most graciously

ously to accept those Titles, which are justly due to you.

But we must not omit to take Notice, that a few Days before this, the Czar went to the Senate, and made a Speech to the following Effect.

THAT since it had pleas'd God to heap so many Blessings on him during the last burthenfome and tedious War, and at length to grant him a Peace so glorious, and so advantageous for the whole Empire, he thought it but a Piece of Justice in him to do the Nation some Favour, in Acknowledgment of the Mercies he had receiv'd at the Hand of God; and that he could not better acquit himself of this Duty, than by publishing a General Amnesty throughout the Empire, not only for such whose Crimes have deserv'd arbitrary Punishment, or who are already under Sentence upon Account of the publick Debts, and have not wherewithal to pay them; and by forgiving poor Subjects the Arrears of old Taxes, which they have not hitherto paid, by Reason of their Insolvency, which Arrears amount to several Millions, from the Beginning of the last War to the Year 1718.

The Senate having thereupon most humbly thank'd his Czarish Majesty for his paternal Clemency and Tenderneſs, Orders were immediately dispatch'd to all Parts of the Empire, to set all Persons at Liberty confin'd in Prisons, or on Board the Gallies, to the 22^d of *October* inclusively, either for Debts, or for Crimes of High Treason.

On the 20th of *October*, the Senate, after mature Deliberation with the Clergy, resolv'd, in the Name of the whole *Russian* Empire, most humbly to thank his Majesty for the Fatherly Care and Pains, with which he had apply'd himself to the Advancement of the Happiness and Prosperity of the Empire, ever since he hath held the Reins of Government, but especially during the last War, in which, by his sole Direction, he hath put his Dominions into so formidable a Condition, and acquir'd the Nation so much Glory in the Eyes of all the World; and to intreat him, that he would be pleas'd, as a Token of his Subjects Acknowledgment for the same, to accept, after the Example of other Monarchs, the Titles of *Father of his Country*, *Emperor of all Russia*, and *Peter the Great*. For this Purpose, Prince *Menzicoff* was sent to his Majesty with

with a Letter from the Senate, praying him, in the Name of all the States of the *Russian* Empire, to accept those Titles, and to give them Leave to offer them to his Majesty on the Day of the Celebration of the Peace in the Church, by a solemn Speech. His Majesty sent Word to the Prince, *That he should be glad to speak with some of the Members of the Senate about it.* And accordingly the Senators, accompany'd by the Archbishops of *Novogrod* and *Plesko*, Vice-Presidents of the Synod, waited on his Majesty, and renew'd their Request; but his Majesty, such is his natural Modesty, was a long Time in Suspence, whether or no to accept their Offer, and for certain Reasons desir'd to be excus'd; but the Senators, &c. very earnestly repeating their Instances to the contrary, he at length condescended to accept those Titles, and they were conferr'd upon him in the Manner following:

On the 22d of *October*, which, as 'twas said above, was the Day fix'd for solemnizing the Conclusion of the Peace, their Imperial Majesties went in the Morning to the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity; where, after the Liturgy was over, the Treaty of perpetual Peace was read, as concluded and ratify'd between his Majesty and the Crown of *Sweden*. Then the Archbishop of *Plesko* made an Harangue, in which he rehears'd all the glorious Exploits of his Majesty, and the Favours which he hath heap'd upon his Empire and Subjects during his Reign; adding, at the same Time, that he justly deserv'd the Appellations of *Father of his Country, and the Great.* When his Harangue was ended, the Senate advanc'd to his Majesty in a Body, and the Count *de Golofskin*, Great Chancellor, made the following Speech to him in the *Russian* Language, in the Name of all the States of the Empire.

TIS only owing to your Majesty's illustrious Actions, and the indefatigable Care with which you have always apply'd yourself to the Affairs of State and War, that we are deliver'd out of the Darkness of Ignorance, and set upon the Theatre of the World in Sight of the whole Universe; so that we, who before were Nothing, are now become Something, and are in the same Rank and Interest with the polite Nations. Where shall we find Words duly to exalt your Majesty's Merits, who hath procur'd us a Peace so glorious and advantageous for your Empire? But as we know that your Majesty does not care for such Panegyrics, we will suppress them. However,

However, lest we should be tax'd with Ingratitude for the Favours you have heap'd upon the whole Nation, we take the Liberty, in the Name of all the States of the Empire, most humbly to intreat your Majesty, that you will please to accept, as an Acknowledgment, the Titles of *Peter the Great, Father of the Country, and Emperor of all Russia*. The Title of *Emperor* was granted some Ages ago to your Majesty's illustrious Ancestors, by the great *Roman Emperor Maximilian I.* and several Powers do actually give it to your Majesty at this Time. The Title of *Great*, which your Majesty hath acquir'd by your Heroick Actions, hath been already given you in several publick Writings: And as for the Title of *Father of the Country*, we thought fit to give it to your Majesty, as being our Father, whom God hath been pleas'd to grant us in his great Goodness, without any Merit of our own. We give it you after the Example of the ancient *Greek and Roman Senators*, who used to give those Appellations to such of their Monarchs as render'd themselves famous by glorious Exploits, and by Acts of Goodness to their People. Therefore we think ourselves oblig'd, by your Majesty's Fatherly Tenderneß, most humbly to offer you what is already yours without it, what you yourself have already so justly acquir'd, and what belongs to you by full Right and Title; intreating, that you would be pleas'd to favour us according to your known Magnanimity, and most graciously to accept what we now dedicate to your Majesty.

Then the whole Senate thrice repeated, *Long live Peter the Great, Father of his Country, and Emperor of all Russia.*

The Substance of his Imperial Majesty's Answer to the Speech was this:

First, **T**HAT he heartily desir'd the Nation would acknowledge the Goodness of the great God for his Mercies vouchsafed during the late War, and by the Treaty of Peace concluded with the Crown of Sweden.

Secondly, That they would render all possible Thanks to God; and while they enjoy Peace, not lay aside military Exercises, lest what has happen'd to the *Greek Monarchy* should happen again.

And

And Thirdly, *That they would lay the publick Good to Heart, and make a profitable Use of the Advantages which God hath been pleas'd to put into their Hands, for making Commerce flourish, and for easing the Nation.*

The Czar having taken the Title of Emperor, sent Orders to his Ministers abroad, to make the necessary Instances at the respective Courts where they resided, in order to procure a Recognition of the Title of Emperor of *Russia*. He begun with the Republicks and Hans Towns; and on the 28th of *November*, Prince *Kurakin*, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of that Prince in *Holland*, presented a Memorial to the States General, notifying, that his Master having assum'd the Title of Emperor of Great *Russia*, desir'd their High Mightinesses to acknowledge him in that Quality: to which the States General return'd an Answer, containing in Substance as follows:

THAT nothing could be more agreeable to their High Mightinesses, than the Communication made to them of the News of the Peace concluded by the Czar with the *Swedes*; that their High Mightinesses take Part in every Concern or Matters respecting his Czarish Majesty, or that tend to encrease the Happiness of his Family, and consequently must have heard, with great Satisfaction, the evincing Proofs the Czar's Subjects have given of their Gratitude, for the many Advantages his Majesty has confer'd upon them at the Expence of his Tranquillity, and Hazard of his Life, in desiring him to accept the Title of Emperor, &c. That their High Mightinesses acknowledge, that indeed his Czarish Majesty's Actions have been extraordinary; but as to the Title of Emperor, they must desire him to consider, that such a publick Acknowledgement as is demanded of them, regards more particularly the Consent of crown'd Heads primarily to that of Regents of Republicks; and that they shall readily follow the Example of crown'd Heads in this Particular, who otherwise cannot but resent a Proceeding that anticipates theirs, in a Matter which immediately regards them, and much nearer than it can any Republick whatever.

But the first Prince who publicly acknowledged the Czar's new Title, was the King *Prussia*, whose Envoy at the Court of *Petersbourg*, Baron *Mardefelt*, some Days

Days before the Czar set out for *Moscow*, made to him the following Speech :

Most Serene and most Powerful Emperor and Sovereign,
AS soon as his Majesty the King of *Prussia*, my most gracious Sovereign and Master, was inform'd, by my Letters, that your Majesty, upon the Instances of your faithful Subjects and Estates, had resolv'd to accept the Quality and Title of Emperor, his Majesty was pleas'd to command me forthwith to acknowledge, in his Name, your Imperial Majesty in Quality of Emperor, and congratulate you on that high Dignity, which is answerable, and bears a Proportion to your formidable Forces both by Sea and Land, and to the several Kingdoms and States possess'd by your Majesty as Sovereign Lord ; so that upon that very Account, several Monarchs and States of *Europe* had already given you the Title of Emperor, as a natural Consequence of your Power : And, indeed, who can with more Justice use that glorious Title than your Majesty, who possesses so many eminent Qualities both in respect to War and Peace, that altho' you had not been call'd to the Throne by order of the Succession, you would nevertheless be esteem'd and judg'd worthy of, and born for that supreme Dignity, and God would have plac'd you therein in this World.

The known Modesty of your Imperial Majesty, does not permit me to commend, in your Presence, your Heroick Actions, and join in the Eulogies all the World makes of them.

Therefore I shall content myself to wish, in the Name of my most gracious King and Sovereign, that God will be pleas'd to grant, that your Majesty may enjoy this Imperial Title in Health and all Happiness, till you are come to a very old Age ; that he will heap all Sorts of Blessings upon you ; and that your Majesty may persist in that sincere Amity towards his Royal House, which has hitherto subsisted, and which his *Prussian* Majesty, my most gracious King and Master, will cultivate and cement on his Part by all possible Means.

It may not here be improper to insert the Title which this new Emperor takes in Foreign Letters, which is as follows :

By the Grace of God, we *Peter the First*, Emperor and Sovereign of all *Russia*, *Moscow*, *Kiow*, *Volodimer*,
Great

Great Novogrod ; Czar of *Cazan*, *Astracan*, and *Siberia* ;
 Lord of *Biescow*, and Great Duke of *Smolensko*. Duke
 of *Estonia*, *Livonia*, *Carelia*, *Twer*, *Ingor*, *Perme*, *Wiaska*,
Bulgaria, and other Kingdoms ; Great Duke of the Lower
Novogrod, *Czernikow*, *Rezan*, *Kostow*, *Jaroslów*, *Bielozorow*,
Uder, *Obdonia*, *Candy* ; and Emperor of all the Northern
 Parts, Lord of the Countries of *Jever* and *Castalia* ;
 Hereditary Lord and Possessor of the Countries of *Georgia*,
Cabordia, *Czerkassia*, and the Dutchy of *Gorki*.

The Czar having thus assum'd the Title of Emperor, and being desirous to settle the Succession on a Prince likely to follow his Maxims, and perfect his Projects, chiefly in Relation to the civilizing of the *Russian* Nation, and entirely rescuing them from the Ignorance in which they were plung'd, thought fit to make a publick Step relating thereto : In order to which, on the 23d of February, 1721, he being then at *Moscow*, Notice was given by Sound of Trumpet, That all Officers, Civil and Military, all natural-born Subjects, and Foreign Merchants, inhabiting within the City of *Moscow*, should repair the next Day to the Castle Church ; where, being assembled accordingly, a Proposal they little expected was made to them, and afterwards distributed to each Person in Print, to the Purport following, ' That it was his Imperial Majesty's Pleasure, that every Man should swear, and give it under his Hand, that he will not only approve the Choice his said Majesty shall make of a Successor to the Government of the Empire, but, moreover, acknowledge the Person his Majesty shall propose for that End to be Emperor and Sovereign.' The Ordinance itself, and the Oath subjoin'd thereto, are as follows :

WE PETER the First, Emperor, and Sovereign of all *Russia*. Be it known to all Persons, &c. The *Abalom*-like Wickedness of our Son *Alexius* is manifest to the whole World ; and 'twas not owing to his Repentance, but to the Benevolence of the Almighty towards our native Country, that his flagitious Designs did not take Effect, which the Manifesto publish'd for that End evidently shews. The Grounds of his Proceedings may justly be attributed to that ancient Custom of our Country, by Virtue of which, the eldest Son inherited the Estate of his Father, exclusive of the younger Children ; and as he knew himself the sole Male Heir of our Family, so neither Admonition nor Reproof from his Father, took Place

Place with him. We can assign no Reason why so bad a Custom should be so deeply rooted in the Minds of Men, and so generally receiv'd, having Examples, not only of wise Parents among the common People, who have dispens'd with it, but Examples also in the Holy Scriptures, where it appears *Rebecca* procur'd the Inheritance for her younger Son preferably to the eldest, and, which is more, the Blessing of God attended that Choice. Another like Example we find amongst our Predecessors, in the Great Duke *John Basiliowitz*, of happy, and eternal glorious Memory, one who shew'd himself not in Name, but in Deed, a great Prince, and particularly when our Country was divided among the Children of *Wladimir*, he re-united it: He sought for a Successor who was able to prevent his Dominions from falling into the Confusion from which he had so lately brought them, and dispens'd therefore with this Custom, and settled the Succession at his Pleasure, which he afterwards twice alter'd; at first, he pass'd by his Son, and nominated his Nephew to the Succession; and afterwards remov'd him, notwithstanding he had been crown'd, and left his Son Successor to the Crown, as may be seen in our Chronicles, Anno 7006 (of our Lord 1493.) The Great Duke *John Basiliowitz* nominated his Nephew the Prince *Demetrius* to the Succession, who was crown'd the 4th. of February by the Patriarch *Simon*, Anno 7010 (of our Lord 1502.) The 11th of April, the Great Duke *John Basiliowitz* being displeas'd with his Nephew, forbid Prayers to be made in the Churches for him, put him in Arrest; and the 14th of April he declar'd his Son *Basilides Franowicz* his Successor, pursuant to which he was crown'd by the same Patriarch: And there are other Examples, which, though too tedious to find Place here, shall hereafter be publish'd to the World. For these Reasons, and out of Commiseration to our Subjects, that Families may not be ruin'd by unworthy Heirs, we order'd in the Year of our Lord 1714, that the real Estates of our Subjects should descend to their Heirs Male, but withal, that it should be entirely at the Father's Choice, to appoint whom he would for his Heir, and this, to prevent, as far as possible, Estates falling into unworthy Hands.

As it concerns us in a more particular Manner to take Care of our Dominions, which are, by the Assistance of the Almighty, so much enlarg'd, so we have thought convenient to decree, that the reigning Prince shall hereafter have Power to nominate whom he pleaseth to the Succession;

Succession; and should he, by subsequent Observations, find the Person so nominated incapable of governing, he may then chuse another, that our Children, to latest Posterity, may learn to avoid such evil Courses as the above-mention'd.

We therefore command all our loving Subjects, both Spiritual and Temporal, to swear before Almighty God, and upon the Holy Evangelists, to be obedient to these our Orders; and whoever shall be found acting in Opposition to them, or shall put any other Construction upon them, shall be accounted Traytors, and incur the Penalties of Death and Excommunication.

Given at our Palace

at Preobrazentky,

Feb. 5, 1712.

(L.S.)

PETER.

Copy of an Oath to be sign'd and taken by all the Subjects of Great and Little Russia.

I The undernam'd, do vow and swear before Almighty God, and upon the Holy Evangelists, that I own and acknowledge the Ordinance concerning the Succession to the Crown of *Russia*, publish'd the 5th of February, 1722, by Order of the most illustrious and mighty Prince, *Peter the First*, Emperor and Sovereign of all *Russia*, our most gracious Lord and Master; wherein it is ordain'd, that the present, or any succeeding Emperor of *Russia*, not only may at Pleasure nominate and appoint a Successor to the Crown, but likewise alter the Succession, as often as he, the present, or any other succeeding Emperor shall see cause, or think fit: This Imperial Ordinance, I, the undernam'd, do acknowledge to be just and right, and promise all due Obedience to the Person so nam'd and appointed Successor to the Imperial Crown of *Russia*; I will hold and acknowledge him to be the only lawful Heir, and my only Sovereign, and accordingly will hazard Life and Fortune to maintain him on the Throne, and defeat the Designs of his Enemies. Moreover, if I shall ever be found to act contrary to this Oath, or to put any other Construction upon it, then, and in that Case, I will be accounted a Traitor, and not only be liable to an ignominious Death, but also to the Anathema of the Church. In Confirmation of which, I kiss the Holy Gospel and Cross, and hereunto do set my Hand.

In Obedience to this Command, People of all Ranks in *Moscow* subscribed this Proposition without Hesitation, and the Czar dispatch'd proper Officers into all the Provinces, to see the same done there likewise.

Our Readers have been often put in Mind, that they are not to expect these *Registers* to be fill'd with News; we record in these Sheets only past Transactions, and will never amuse our Readers with Affairs that are only transacting, and whose Events are consequently doubtful; for this Reason, we make no Mention at present of the Czar's Expedition to the *Caspian-Sea*, on which that Monarch is at present employ'd: But proceed to the Affairs of *Italy*, and first of

R O M E.

IN the Register N^o XXII, an Account was given of the late Pope's Death, of the Election of the present Pope, and of his Coronation:

In the Afternoon of that Day, Cardinal *Tanara*, Dean of the Sacred College, and at the Head of them, paid the new Pope, in their Name, the usual Complement *ad multos annos*, that is to say, wish'd him a Reign of many Years Duration; to which Complement the Pope answer'd as follows:

Venerable Brethren,

THE Choice you have made of me to fill the Throne of *St. Peter*, would make me very fearful, lest I should not acquit myself well of this Duty, in Times that are so ticklish and difficult for Government, if I was not persuaded, that the Divine Providence, whose Mysteries are the more tremendous, because they are impenetrable, had more Share therein than human Resources. And so far as much as I only accepted this Apostolical Burthen, by Order of the Almighty, of which, you were the Depositories, I find Comfort in the painful Functions which the Sovereign Pontificate brings along with it.

I think I cannot begin my Carriere better than by ordering an universal Jubilee, and begging the Assistance of Heaven, of which I shall stand in need during my Government. Therefore let us lift up our Hearts to God, and beg of him, with Minds truly humbled, *That he will be pleased to communicate to me that Wisdom which is always about his Throne, in order to dispose and prepare my Heart to*
execute

execute his Will at all Times. And as you concurred in my Election by your Suffrages, I hope you will share the Weight thereof with me, both by your Counsels, and by your Prayers. I flatter myself, that you will have no Occasion to repent of the Choice you have made, because, as often as I shall do any thing to the Advantage of the Holy See, I shall take Care to acknowledge your Service therein, and to give you my sincere Thanks. In the mean Time, Venerable Brethren, I give you my Apostolical Benediction, as a sure Pledge of the Affection I have for you.

The next remarkable Affair we shall take Notice of, is the Solemnity constantly observ'd by every new Pope, of taking Possession of the Church of *St. John de Lateran*. This Solemnity is look'd upon as absolutely necessary; inasmuch as the Taking Possession of this Church is indeed taking Possession of the Pontificate, and so frequently called: For the *Lateran* (*Lateranum*) or *St. John of Lateran*, is the chief Basilick, or great and stately Cathedral Church of *Rome*, not long since repair'd by Pope *Innocent X.* The *Lateran* Palace joining to it was new built by *Sixtus V.* It stands upon Mount *Caelius*, near the *Caelian* Gate, that takes its Name from that Hill. *Baronius* tells us, That the Place where the Church and Palace of *Lateran* were built, did belong to that *Lateranus*, whom *Nero* caused to be put to Death; at that Time, probably, the Emperor *Constantine* gave the House that then stood there, to Pope *Melchisedes*, who there celebrated the Council held in the Year 313, upon the Account of *Cecilianus* of *Carthage*, who was persecuted by the *Donatists*. The Emperor *Constantine* afterwards caus'd the *Basilica*, or Cathedral, to be built there, which is now in Being, together with the Font, which still bears that Emperor's Name, furnishing it with the richest Ornaments, and allowing a very considerable Revenue for maintaining of Lamps, and Servants, as may be seen at large in the Treatise of *Anastassius*, the Library-keeper, entitled, *De Magnificientia Constantini*. The Pavement of this famous Basilick is all of Marble, and the Roof of it is supported by four Rows of Pillars, the whole being gilt and figur'd with great Sumptuousness and Artifice. This Church was burnt in 1308, under *Clement V.* and in 1361, under *Innocent VI.* but was still repair'd.

Five General Councils have been held here. The first of them, which is the Ninth General Council, was celebrated by *Calixtus II.* in 1122, according to *Baronius*; but according

according to others, on *March 25, 1123.* It was principally call'd against the Emperor *Henry V.*, about the Investiture to Benefices, especially to Prelatures, and was compos'd of 300 Bishops. We have 22 Canons of that Council's, which *Gratian*, who liv'd about that Time, has inserted, for the most Part, in his Decretals.

The Second *Lateran* Council, commonly call'd the Tenth General, was convened by *Innocent II.*, against the Anti-Pope *Anacletus II.*, and against *Arnoldus* of *Brescia*, the Disciple of *Petrus Abailardus*, *April 8, 1129*, at which, near 1000 Prelates assisted: It contains 30 Canons.

The Third *Lateran* Council, call'd by some the Eleventh General, was held by Pope *Alexander III.*, assisted by 300 Bishops, *March 5, 1179.* The Intent of this Convocation was, chiefly, to cross the Emperor *Frederick I.*, who had oppos'd three Anti-Popes to the Popes of *Rome*; with a Design also to condemn the Opinions of the *Albigenses*, under the Name of *Cathari* (Puritans) and the *Rasarinens*. It contains 27 Canons.

The Fourth *Lateran* Council is call'd The Great, because of the vast Number of Prelates that assisted at it. Pope *Innocent III.*, conven'd it, *Anno 1215*, and it began the 11th of *November.* The Patriarchs of *Constantinople* and *Jerusalem* assisted in Person, and those of *Alexandria* and *Antioch* by their Deputies; and besides them, there were 71 Archbishops, 340 Bishops, and about 800 Abbots or Priors, besides the Embassadors of most Sovereign Princes. It was call'd against the *Albigenses*, and to condemn the Opinions of *Amanti*, and of Abbot *Joachim*. It contains 70 Chapters.

The Fifth *Lateran* Council began in 1512, under *Julius II.*, and ended not till 1517, under *Leo X.* It was chiefly kept in Opposition to the Council of *Pisa*, which they condemn'd in the first Session of it.

These Five are called General *Lateran* Councils: And besides them, Pope *Martin I.*, celebrated a Council here, *Oct. 5, 649*, with 105 Bishops, where he condemn'd the Confession of Faith call'd *Typus*, propos'd by the Emperor *Constantine*, and by *Cyrus*, *Sergius Paulus*, and *Pyrrhus*, Monothelites.

In another Council, held in 1053, by *Leo XI.*, *Gregory* Bishop of *Perceil*, was excommunicated for Adultery; and the next Year he held another for the Canonization of *Gerrard* Bishop of *Toul*.

Alexander II., celebrated one in 1063, against *Simonists*, upon Occasion of *Peter* of *Florence*, accus'd of that Crime, and of Heresy.

Four Councils were kept in the *Lateran* under *Paschal II.*, to deprive the Emperors of Investitures.

Alexander III., in a Council held at *Lateran*, about 1166, excommunicated the Emperor *Frederick I.*

Over the Door of this *Basilick* is the following Inscription, which plainly sheweth, that it is allowed to be the Mother of all other Churches; *Sacro sancta Lateranensis Ecclesia, omnium Urbis & Orbis Ecclesiarum Mater & Caput.*

The Cavalcade on this Occasion is so magnificent, that we think fit to give an Account of it, as it is printed in the Ceremonial of the Court of *Rome*, and is to be always observ'd in the same Manner, except in some few Particulars of little Consequence.

The Order of the Procession is as follows:

1. Twelve Trumpeters and 12 Gentlemen on Horseback, marching four by four, followed by the Officers of the Cardinals, whose Office is to bear their Cloaks, mounted upon fine Horses; each Cardinal sends one, and they carry those Cloaks in Portmanteaus of Scarlet Cloth, trimm'd with Gold. These are follow'd by the Mace-Bearers of the said Cardinals on Horse-back, carrying their Silver Maces, with the Arms of the said Cardinals.

2. Next to these come the Gentlemen and Almoners of the Cardinals, Ambassadors, and Princes; and after them come the Gentlemen and *Roman* Barons, finely mounted, and in magnificent Apparel. There are on both Sides proper Officers richly mounted, to direct the March.

3. After these come four Gentlemen of the Horse to the Pope, with large Scarlet Copes, his Taylor, and two Cloak-bearers clothed in Red, and carrying two Portmanteaus of Red Velvet embroider'd with Gold. These are follow'd by the Grooms of the Stable in Red, leading the White *Spanish* Genets, which the Embassadors of *Spain* every Year present to the Pope, as a Tribute for the Kingdom of *Naples*, with Silk Housings and Gold Fringes and Embroideries.

4. Next come several Mules caparison'd with Red Velvet and Gold Fringe, led by other Grooms; three Litters cover'd with Red Velvet and Scarlet embroider'd with Gold. They are preceded by their Officers on Horseback, and follow'd by the Master of the Stables on Horseback, with several Footmen waiting on both Sides his Horse.

5. The

5. The *Roman Nobility*, and those who are *Titular*, come next without any Order, to prevent Disputes about Precedency, all on Horseback, the Manes of them being interlac'd with Ribbons of several Colours. They are attended by numberless Staffiers or Footmen. These are follow'd by five Mace-bearers to the Pope, cover'd with long Robes of Purple-colour'd Cloth edg'd with black Velvet. They carry their Silver Maces, and wear Collars. They are follow'd by 14 Drummers on Foot, cloathed in red Sattin trimm'd with Gold, having Plumes in their Hats. They carry the Standards, or Ensigns of the 14 Wards or Quarters of the City, and are follow'd by several Trumpeters in red Cloth lac'd with Gold.

6. The Officers of the Apostolick Chamber, and the Chamberlains who attend the Pope out of Town, all in red Cloaths, come next, follow'd by the Commissary and Fiscal of the said Chamber in Purple, the Consistorial Advocates in Black, the Household Chaplains of the Pope in Red, the private Chamberlains and Chamberlains of Honour, and four other Officers carrying the four Hats of the Pope of Crimson Velvet.

7. Next to those come, upon very fine Horses, 40 Officers of the *Roman People*, viz. the Judges, Justices, Secretaries, Notaries, Controllers, Fiscals, &c. in long Senatorial Robes of black Velvet, with Caps of the same. The Housing of their Horses is also of black Velvet.

8. The Clerks of the Chamber, the Auditors of the Rota, and the Master of the Sacred Palace, comes next, and on their Right comes the Dean of the said Rota, follow'd by 14 Marshals of the *Roman People*, with Vests of white Sattin, their upper Coats being of purple Sattin, and their Caps of the same.

9. The 14 Captains of the 14 Quarters come next in long Robes of Crimson Velvet, lac'd with Silver Cloth, Breeches of white Sattin, lac'd with Gold, and a black Velvet Cap adorn'd with Diamonds, and other Jewels.

10. These are follow'd by the Governor of *Rome*, and the Conservator of the *Roman People*, and on the Left of the Governor there is a vacant Place design'd for the *Roman Senator*; but as he claims the Precedency of the other, he never assists in that Ceremony.

11. Next come the Princes of the *Soglio*, or Pontifical Throne, the Pope's Relations, and the Embassadors of crown'd Heads with their Retinue, according to their Rank settled at the Court of *Rome*, and two Masters of the

the Ceremonies preceding immediately the Apostolical Sub-deacon, who carries the Triple Cross; he is attended by two Officers with red Rods.

12. The Pope comes next in a magnificent Litter, surrounded by 50 young *Roman* Gentlemen in white Sattin, his Footmen, Messengers, and the Surveyor of the Roads. This Litter is guarded by two Files of Switzers on Horseback, very well arm'd, commanded by a Captain. The Litter is of red Velvet, imbroider'd and fring'd with Gold. He is in a Cassock of white Tabby, with a Rotchet and Stole of red Velvet, if it be in Winter Time, or red Sartin in Summer, with a Cap of the same under the red Hat. The Master of the Pope's Chamber, the Cup-bearer, the Secretary, and the Physician keep near the Litter, before the Swiss Guards.

13. Next to them come the Cardinals two and two on Horseback, having some Halbardiers before them. They are follow'd by the Patriarch, the Archbishops, Bishops, Apostolick Protonotaries, Auditors, and Treasurers of the Apostolick Chamber, the Referendaries, several Trumpeters, and, the Procession is clos'd by two Troops of Light Horse, whose Officers are richly cloath'd, and every Trooper has a Coat of red Velvet, with hanging Sleeves of red and yellow Velvet, which makes a fine Show, when on their March, they ~~are~~ or couch their Lances.

The Procession sets out from the Church of *St. Peter* to the Bridge of *St. Angelo*, thence in *Eianchi* to *Parione*, *Fasquino*, *St. Andrew*, *Della Valle*, *Cesarini*, and the *Capitolio*, where the *Roman* People erect a Triumphant Arch, through which the Pope having pass'd, is met in *Campo* by the Senator of the People, who having presented him with the Keys, and holding an Ivory Scepter in his Hand, makes a Speech to the new Pontiff; after which the Cavalcade proceeds to *Campo Vacino*, where the Duke of *Parma* causes another Triumphant Arch to be erected before his Palace. They proceed next through the *Coliseum*, where another Triumphant Arch is erected by the *Jews*, who there present the new Pope with the Books of *Moses*, written in *Hebrew*, and make to him the following Speech :

Most Holy Father,

THese are the Laws and Statutes which the eternal God formerly gave to Moses, to be observ'd by our Fore-Fathers and their Posterity; therefore we present the same to your Holiness, most humbly requesting, that they be strictly observ'd and executed during the Course of your Pontificate, that the Almighty may pour his Blessings on your Reign, and give you Days of Peace and Salvation.

The Answer which the Pope returns to this Speech, is as follows:

I Have all due Respect and Esteem for the Law of Moses, because it proceeded from God, but I cannot approve the Interpretation you put upon it, in rejecting the Messiah, whose Vicar I am; this is the Reason why the Almighty has dispers'd you throughout the World; but when it will please him to call you to the Knowledge of the Christian Religion, you shall find therein Peace and Salvation.

As soon as this Answer is deliver'd to the Jews, they retire without speaking a Word, and the Procession passes from thence to St. John of Lateran, through Streets hung with fine Tapestry, and crowded with People. The Pope being arriv'd at the principal Portico of that Church, alights from his Litter, and is presented by the Cardinal Arch-Priest thereof with a Cross he kisses, and then which proceeds to the Throne prepar'd under the said Portico, where he puts on his Pontifical Ornaments, and a most rich Mitre. He sits on the Throne, where the Canons of that Church come to kiss his Feet, and the Arch-Priest having made a suitable Speech, presents him with the two Keys of the Church, one of Gold, and the other of Silver, in a Gold-Bason with Flowers.

This Ceremony being ended, and the Cardinals having put on their Sacred Vestments, the Pope goes to the principal Door of the Church, where he throws Holy Water upon the People, and is three Times perfum'd with Frankincense by the Cardinal Arch Priest, and from thence is carry'd in a Chair under a Canopy, supported by the Canons of that Church, to the Great Altar, where he makes a short Prayer, and is carry'd to a Throne in the Choir of the Church, where the Cardinals come and make their Obedience; after which, two Cardinal Deacons take off, and put on again his Mitre, during which he

gives his Blessings to the People. He is carry'd from thence to the Palace of *St. John de Lateran*, where they sing several Anthems, and recite several Prayers, which being finish'd, they put the Sacred *Tiara* or Triple Crown on the Pope's Head, and remove him to the great Lodge above the Porrick of the Church, from whence he gives twice his Blessing to the People. This being over, he presents each Cardinal with a Gold Medal, and the General Treasurer throws Money to the People, which has been coin'd on Purpose with the Arms of his Holiness; and this Liberality is attended with repeated *Long live the Pope, &c.*

This Ceremonial was punctually observ'd when the present Pope *Innocent XIII.* took Possession of *St. John de Lateran* on the 16th of November last.

The Affair of Cardinal *Alberoni* has made so much Noise in the World, and relates to so many Transactions, that it well deserves to be transmitted to Posterity. We have in several of our former *Registers* taken Notice of his Disgrace at the Court of *Spain*, of his Retreat from thence, and of the most material Accidents that have happen'd to him since that Time; to all which, the Tables at the End of each Volume will direct the Readers. The great Number of Papers that have been publish'd by Way of Accusation against him, and also in his Justification, were too long to find Place in our stinted Performance, and perhaps too, the Abstracts of those Pieces, publish'd by others, have been very imperfect, as Abstracts generally are. They have at least been judg'd insufficient by that Cardinal himself; who therefore has thought fit to take the Substance of all the former Writings, and to publish them all in one Piece, which contains many Things that well deserve the Curiosity and Attention of the Publick, and will be Matter of Information to Posterity; for which Reason we insert this Piece at large, as it was publish'd by the said Cardinal under the Title of

A Letter

A LETTER from a certain Prelate to a certain Marquess
relating to Cardinal Alberoni, dated at Rome, July 19
1721.

S I R,

Y^{OU} have so long wish'd to be inform'd of Cardinal
Alberoni's Affairs, his personal Qualities, and his
Reputations here; that I could not delay giving you the
Satisfaction you desire, &c. Could you believe, that the
capricious Influences of the present Age, were the Cause
and Motives of his Persecution? But he is an unhappy
Man; and the Publick cannot forget his Eminency's Mis-
fortune, while they see the Cardinal del Guidice, and the
Princes of Ursins at Rome. You will easily guess what
I intend, and, I persuade myself, that you will be of
my Opinion, if you do but call to mind the Revolutions
that have happen'd within these few Years in the Spanish
Ministry. I make no Question but you will say I am be-
come a Strickler for him, and that I have suffer'd myself
to be gain'd over to his Interest; but when you come to
reflect upon the Pleasure which I took formerly in seeing
him displac'd, you will then, perhaps, do me more
Justice. Neither is it improbable, that when you have
duly consider'd the Complaints form'd against him, and
the Patience with which he has born every Shock, with-
out being discourag'd, you will be convinc'd, as well
as I, that to declare in his Favour, is to declare on the
same Side with Reason, Equity, Merit, and Justice.

When he was first represented to the World, as a Man
who had disturb'd the Tranquillity of Europe, who had
been the Author of a bloody War, a Favourer of the
Turk, an Usurper of Church Livings, a Prevaricator with
the Rights of the Holy Father, an implacable Enemy to
Rome, and, moreover, as a Man who was disgrac'd by
his Prince, furiously persecuted by Clement XI, accus'd as
it were by the Voice of the whole World, and finally,
so rejected and rebuff'd, that he scarce knew where to be
safe: All these Accusations, I say, made me hate him
to such a Degree, that when I saw him at Rome during
the Conclave, I could not but think that Heaven had, by
a peculiar Providence, deliver'd up Antichrist into the
Hands of the Holy See. O what Joy was there for a
zealous Champion of the Church! But the Case is alter'd;
and since Darknesh has been succeeded by the Light, and
that the Truth has manifested itself, the Ministers of
Princes

Princes look upon his Eminency with a more favourable Eye, and the wisest of them know not which to admire most in the Cardinal, whether his Constancy, or his Capacity, or Penetration. Rome applauds him in all Respects; and that which redounds most to his Honour, is that those very Persons who are thoroughly acquainted with his Affairs, declare, that all the Clamour against him will come just to the same ridiculous End as the Labour of the Mountain. But to proceed now to Matter of Fact.

The Cardinal's Enemies having form'd a Plan to strip him of the Purple, thought they had no better Way to bring it about, than to blame him for the War of *Sardinia*, perswading themselves, that the Accusation would gain the more Credit, because, while he was at the Head of the *Spanish Affairs*, it was plausible to affirm, that he had laid the Foundation of that pernicious Design: And, in the main, the then Conjunction of Affairs seem'd too favourable to a Charge of that Nature, because he not only refus'd to engage with the Emperor against the Infidels, but also induc'd the King of *Spain* to promise Pope *Clement XI.* who made himself Surety for that Engagement, That he would not invade the Dominions actually possess'd by the House of *Austria*, as long as his Imperial Majesty should be engag'd against the common Enemy. In the mean Time, every Body knows, that no sooner was there a Rupture between the Court of *Vienna* and the *Porte*, but *Sardinia* was invaded, and the Hopes of the *Spanish* Successors, promis'd by Cardinal *Alberoni*, began to vanish.

I will not scruple to own to you, that all *Christendom* was scandaliz'd at this Proceeding, and that without much Examination of the Reason of this Breach of Promise, People condemn'd Cardinal *Alberoni* to the Ax and the Faggot, and every Body argu'd after this Manner: That Prelate is at the Helm of the *Spanish Government*; he has the supreme Direction of their Affairs; by Consequence, if the Court of *Madrid* has declar'd War against the Emperor, his Eminency is to blame for it; he aims to disturb the Peace of all Europe; he is an Enemy to the *Christian Name*; he has violated his Promise made to the Holy Father; he has impos'd upon the Credulity of the King of *Spain*: In a Word, he is a perfidious Traitor both to the Church and his Catholic Majesty. This was the Language of the whole World, and you and I often talk'd after the same Rate, while the Cardinal kept a profound Silence, like a faithful Minister, under the Murmurs and Calumnies of Europe.

The

The Cardinal's Enemies were the more embolden'd, because, after he was disgrac'd, all his Papers were taken from him in *Catalonia*, so that they imagin'd he could not possibly justify himself, and give a proper Answer to the flagrant Complaints which were form'd against him. But Providence, which is pleas'd to bring all Things to Light, discover'd their pernicious Design, and at the same Time permitt'd this Prelate to recover as many authentick Pieces as he wanted to prove his Innocence: For 'tis very remarkable, that the Commissioners who ransack'd his Papers and Packets, left him those that were of the greatest Importance to him, by meer Oversight.

When the News came to *Madrid*, that *M. Molinez*, the Grand Inquisitor of *Spain*, was arrested, the King seem'd to be very much offended, and complain'd of it to his Ministers, especially Cardinal *Alberoni*, to whom he imparted the Design which he had form'd to declare War against the Emperor, in order to revenge the Affront put upon his Crown, and to recover Satisfaction: The Cardinal immediately oppos'd it, and did not fail to use Arguments to back his Opinion. I know that his Catholic Majesty was displeas'd with him for it; and that not finding all the Deference which he desir'd in the said Minister, he wrote about it himself to the Duke de *Popoli*, to know what he would say. The said Duke by a Letter approv'd of the Design, or rather the Resolution of his Majesty, and the King signify'd the same to Cardinal *Alberoni*.

Next Day the Cardinal wrote privately to the Duke de *Popoli*, to bring him off, and to engage him to revoke that precipitant Advice which he had given the King, by shewing him the Impossibility of putting it in Execution, and the fatal Consequences, which, according to his Prediction, have happen'd: Upon this, the Duke de *Popoli* recall'd his Advice by another Letter directed to the King; but, as Ill-Luck would have it, the Cardinal's Letter to the said Duke fell into the Hands of his Majesty, who presently imagin'd that the said Letter had influenc'd that Nobleman to change his Opinion; and thereupon his Majesty dispatch'd Father *Daubenton*, his Confessor, to Cardinal *Alberoni* with his Eminency's Letter.

The Cardinal, far from being shock'd at the Sight of his Letter, own'd it, and declar'd modestly, tho' without being daunted, That he was very glad he had writ it, and that the Honour of the King, and the Interests of the Crown were too dear to him ever to alter his Opinion, desiring

would not have happen'd as they did, for the Cardinal's Instructions to the Commander were express, to put the Army a-shore in *Sicily*, to make himself Master of *Palermo* with 5000 Men, to put all the Artillery, Ammunition, and Provisions, into *Messina*, and then to return with the Spanish Fleet to *Cadiz*. These Instructions have been publish'd; and the Commander who exceeded, or rather transgress'd them, was very conscious to himself; that he had done what he could not justify; for after he was routed by the *English*, he did not dare to shew his Face in *Spain*, and much less at Court, all the Time the Cardinal was there. Nevertheless, because the Blow miscarry'd. behold! here's a Minister declared to be the Author of the War; and as if this was not enough, he is accused moreover, for the Rupture which happen'd between the Courts of *Rome* and *Madrid*; upon which, the *Spaniards* who were settled in that Capital of *Italy*, abandon'd it, and the Office of their Datary was shut up, and all their Dispatches suspended, which, say the Cardinal's Enemies, was done without the King's Knowledge, and meerly by his Eminency's Authority, as well as the expelling of the Nuncio *Aldrovandi*, out of all the Dominions of *Spain*, and the Invasion of the Church-Livings, which he usurp'd from the Churches of *Tarragona*, *Malaga*, and *Seville*.

Now, Sir, if you can, pray reconcile all these Accusations with the Treatment of the Cardinal at *Rome*. Would you not wonder to find the Holy See unactive, and their most cruel Enemy (to speak in the Language of the Indictments against him) before their Eyes? They have him sure; they are Masters of his Person; they may punish him as they please; he stands by himself, without any Support, without Liberty, and almost without Friends; and yet, for all this, he is selegated, and not only so, but he is honour'd, and they are so far from declaring him guilty, that it seems as if they were disposed to decree him innocent. But I return to plead his Cause; tho' you, Sir, very well know, that I am not engag'd to his Eminency by any Tye of Interest, Kindred, or Country; for I am so firmly perswaded of his Innocence, after having seen the Pieces he has publish'd in his own Vindication; that if you had read them as well as I, you would say, That the Accusations form'd against his Eminency, owe their Rise to Passion, Jealousy, Ignorance, and an implicit Faith.

In short, I cannot conceive how it can be said, That the King of *Spain* knew nothing of the *Spaniards* being call'd Home from *Rome*, till after his Eminency's Disgrace;

would not have happen'd as they did, for the Cardinal's Instructions to the Commander were express, to put the Army a-shore in *Sicily*, to make himself Master of *Palermo* with 5000 Men, to put all the Artillery, Ammunition, and Provisions, into *Messina*, and then to return with the Spanish Fleet to *Cadiz*. These Instructions have been publish'd; and the Commander who exceeded, or rather transgress'd them, was very conscious to himself, that he had done what he could not justify; for after he was routed by the *English*, he did not dare to shew his Face in *Spain*, and much less at Court, all the Time the Cardinal was there. Nevertheless, because the Blow miscarry'd, behold! here's a Minister declared to be the Author of the War; and as if this was not enough, he is accused moreover, for the Rupture which happen'd between the Courts of *Rome* and *Madrid*; upon which, the *Spaniards* who were settled in that Capital of *Italy*, abandon'd it, and the Office of their Datarary was shut up, and all their Dispatches suspended which, say the Cardinal's Enemies, was done without the King's Knowledge, and merely by his Eminency's Authority, as well as the expelling of the Nuncio *Marovandi*, out of all the Dominions of *Spain*, and the Invasion of the Church-Livings, which he usurp'd from the Churches of *Tarragona*, *Malaga*, and *Seville*.

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In short, I cannot conceive how it can be said, That the King of *Spain* knew nothing of the *Spaniards* being call'd Home from *Rome*, 'till after his Eminency's Disgrace;

for 'tis well known, that his Catholick Majesty dispatch'd the first Order about it to Cardinal *Acquaviva*; and that his Confessor, Father *Daubenton*, made Application to his Majesty, that his Brethren the Jesuits, then at *Rome*, might not be included in the said Recall, and that the King's Order was accordingly executed at *Rome* by Cardinal *Acquaviva*, with the said Exception. Besides, 'tis notorious, that a great many *Spaniards* of Distinction being return'd to *Madrid*, had the Honour to wait on the King, to kiss his Hand, and to tell him amidst their Compliments, with what Readiness they had obey'd his Orders, especially Abbot *Portocarrero*, whom his Majesty himself was pleas'd to commend for that Diligence and Obedience of which he had given such full Demonstration. How is it possible that the King knew nothing of the Matter, when he commonly read or caused to be read every Week, the Dispatches which he receiv'd upon that Occasion from Cardinal *Acquaviva*, insomuch, that if the Couriers from *Rome* happen'd to come in later than ordinary, his Majesty would know the Reason of it, and nicely examined the Report they gave him, which made Cardinal *Alberoni* say one Day to a certain Person, with whom he conversed familiarly on that Subject, *I cannot conceive, that in order to push a Man into a Ditch dug for him, any Man could be so bold and so rash as to keep a Monarch from the Knowledge of his most Important Affairs? How can any one dare to render a King ignorant, for the Sake of ruining an honest Man? A strong Presumption this,* (continues he) *in Favour of my Innocence.*

The Expulsion of the Nuncio *Aldrovandi* from Spain, upon the Rupture betwixt that Court and *Rome*, is retorted upon Cardinal *Alberoni*, by the Holy See, as an artful Stroke of his Revenge against the then Pope. But to overthrow this Accusation, and to prove the Falseness of it, 'tis sufficient to take Notice how much his Eminency was troubled at it, who, after the Order was given for obliging the said Nuncio to depart the Kingdom, did nevertheless make bold to desire the King to grant that Prelate a Permission to take his formal Leave; which the Nuncio, like a wise Man, interpreted as a Mark of great Distinction, and of which he afterwards made an advantageous Report to the Pope.

Suffer me, Sir, to interrupt the Thread of my Discourse a little, by asking you, if a Minister is not obliged to inviolable Secrecy in those Affairs of State which are trusted with him by his Prince, and if he can be oblig'd to give

an Account of his Conduct when he is a Clergyman. Were the Cardinals *Ximenes*, *Richlieu*, and *Mazarin*, ever forc'd by the Holy See to submit to such hard Terms? Did that See look upon them as its Enemies, because they refused to speak out? With what wonderful Respect and Caution is a certain Cardinal treated, even at this Day, beyond the Mountains? Shall Cardinal *Alberoni* then be the only Criminal, for not having divulged the Secrets of the Court of *Madrid*; and must his Fidelity and Attachment to that Court have no other Reward than the odious Character of an Enemy to the Holy See?

You know that *Clement XI.* being resolv'd to push him to an Extremity by all manner of Prosecutions, obtain'd of your Government that he should be put under an Arrest; but at the same Time you are not ignorant, that when the State put the Question to the Holy Father, Whether the said Cardinal was guilty of *Lesæ Majestatis* divine or humane, it was answer'd, of neither; and that thereupon he was set at full Liberty. What is it then you would have done with him? What was his Capital Crime? And why all this cruel Treatment of an Ecclesiastick who is invested with the Purple, and who besides, has been declar'd Innocent? But let us enter a little farther into the Subject, and collect the Services he has done to the Holy See.

It was he who restor'd that good Harmony which there is betwixt the Courts of *Rome* and *Madrid*: It was he who procur'd the Recall of Nuncio *Aldrovandi*; and who, to accomplish that Point, surmounted very great Difficulties, and even made himself Enemies; and if we do but ask the Nuncio *Aldrovandi*, he will tell us with his usual Probity, that his Eminency procur'd the Condemnation and Suppression of an infamous Book, printed at *Naples* by Order of the Duke of *Uceda*, which was injurious to the then Pope, and to his illustrious Family. He will tell us, That the Decree which censur'd that indecent Performance, was drawn up by Cardinal *Alberoni*'s own Hand, that he caus'd it to be subscrib'd by his Majesty, and that he compos'd it in Terms so emphatical, and so adapt'd to the Roman Chancery, that 'tis as exact as if it had been drawn up by a Counsellor of the Holy Office. I cannot help telling you upon this Occasion, that one of the prime Ministers of the Court of *Madrid*, asserting in a long Conference, that this was not a Book to be censur'd, because it defended his Majesty's Rights, to the Prejudice of those of *Rome*, his Eminency answer'd, *The Question, Sir, is not of his Majesty's Rights, but rather of the Injury done to the Holy See, in*

the Person of *Christ's Vicar*; and I am persuaded, that the King himself will think it a Point of Honour and Conscience to censure and suppress that Libel. The whole City of *Madrid* remembers to this Day, with what a modest Freedom his Eminency behav'd, even at their Majesties Table, when some Courtiers attack'd the famous Bull *Unigenitus*. Why, said he, must we reject the Operations of the Holy Spirit, and oppose a Doctrine which is receiv'd in Germany, Spain, Italy, and by most of the Churches of France? Judge, Sir, whether this could be the Language of an Enemy to the Holy See.

The recalling of the Cardinal *del Guidice* to Spain, and to the Post of Grand Inquisitor, makes equally for the Honour both of *Rome* and Cardinal *Alberoni*; for it was his Eminency who conducted that whole Intrigue, with so much Address and Secrecy, against the Duke de *Popoli*, and the Prince de *Celamare*, that the said Cardinal was within two Leagues of *Madrid*, before the Marquess *Grimaldo*, Secretary of State, and the Depositary of the Royal Secrets, knew any thing of his Arrival; and that when he was told of it, he protested that he could not believe it, considering how averse he thought his Catholick Majesty was to consent to that Cardinal's being recall'd. 'Tis known that the Cardinal *del Guidice* was banish'd from Spain for offering to proceed in the Court of Inquisition against *Melchior Macanaz*, Attorney-General of the Spanish Monarchy, an Office which the said *Macanaz* had set up in Opposition to the too great Authority of the Inquisitor-General, and by virtue of which, that Nobleman publish'd a new System concerning Ecclesiastical Affairs, which was full of Gall and Scandal against the Holy See; so that the said Attorney General was not only declar'd an implacable Enemy to the Court of *Rome*, but also of Cardinal *Alberoni*.

'Tis true, that the Court of *Rome's* refusing to dispatch the Bulls for the Archbishoprick of *Seville*, in Favour of Cardinal *Alberoni*, occasion'd a Rupture between the two Courts; but the Court of *Madrid* complain'd, that they look'd upon that Refusal as dangerous to their Rights, and as an Attempt to deprive them of their Liberty of disposing of their Bishopricks, and other Ecclesiastical Benefices, to whom they thought fit; and the most eminent Lawyers in Spain took up the Pen to defend the Rights of his Catholick Majesty against the Holy See. But pray, what Use do you think his Eminency made of the Papers written on this Side of the Question, and especially of a cer-

tain Libel which fell into his Hands, in the Presence of Don Lewis de Mirabel, President of Castile? Why, he threw it into the Fire, without giving it a Reading. Now, can it be supposed, that in all this he behaved as an Enemy of the Holy See?

With just the same Prejudice his Eminency is accused of a Design to withdraw Spain from the Obedience of the Holy See. I cannot think any body so void of Judgment and Knowledge, as to be ignorant of the Attachment of the Spanish Monarchy to the Holy Catholick Apostolick and Roman Church, and none but such as are ill-minded, or stark-blind, can doubt of the solid Piety of the King of Spain, of his Submission to the Holy See, and of his filial Respect for the Holy Father; so that either the World must all this while have a wrong Notion of the Religion of the Court of Madrid, (a Thought which no Person of Honour can entertain without Horror) or else Cardinal Alberoni must be pronounced an ungodly Wretch, without Faith, without Law, and a Man of no Religion at all; a Saying which would be no less scandalous to the Holy See, who has chose him one of the Members of the Sacred College, than to the Virtue of that Prelate, so conspicuous in all his Undertakings. Now, Sir, pray observe if the Cardinal's Enemies come off any whir better than those tragedies which we often see too much charged with Events; and whether Calumnies so gross, and those too so grossly maintain'd, must not appear altogether as ridiculous to the Reader as such Kind of Stage-Plays.

If you would know after what Manner he invaded Ecclesiastical Benefices, you need only read what follows. This Prelate having been advanced to the Dignity of a Cardinal, not by his Intrigues and Cabals, as his Enemies have misrepresented abroad, but at the Recommendation of their Catholick Majesties, who with their own Hands wrote several Letters about it to Rome; after they had solicited that Dignity for him by their Instances with the Nuncio Aldobrandi, not to mention the Hopes which Clement XI, gave Alberoni of the Cap, for the Services he had done to the Church: When this Prelate, I say, was made a Cardinal, the Court of Madrid knowing that he had no fixed Estate to support his new Dignity, assign'd him the Revenue of the Church of Tarragona, by the Advices of some Divines, and of his Majesty's Confessor. Afterwards he was nominated to the Bishoprick of Malaga, and then to the Archbishoprick of Seville, of which he could not obtain the Bulls, for certain Reasons of State,

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not thought fit to be publish'd, tho' Cardinal *Acquaviva* communicated them to Cardinal *Alberoni*, telling him on the Part of his Holiness, that the Bulls for *Seville* would be dispatch'd in due Time, and that his Eminency might enjoy the Revenues of it in the mean while; and this the Nuncio *Aldrovandi* confirm'd afterwards to his Eminency by Word of Mouth; so that by virtue of this Grant from the Holy Father, the Cardinal receiv'd Part of the Revenues of the Archbishoprick of *Seville*, without taking up those of *Malaga*, and without exercising so much as one Act of Jurisdiction at *Tarragona*, tho' the Bulls for those Ends have been dispatch'd about two Years ago. Thus you see after what Manner Cardinal *Alberoni* invaded the three Churches of *Spain*, and appropriated their Revenues.

We shall be better able to judge of his Disinterestedness, if one does but reflect, that during the whole Course of his Ministry, he never had a View to advance any of his Relations to Posts, nor to give so much as a Pistole by Way of Pension to a certain Nephew of his, though a Clergyman, and endow'd with great and good Qualities; and it may be said to *Alberoni's* Honour and Glory, that the Wealth he was Master of during his Stay at *Madrid*, only served the better to display his present Impartiality; for he made it his Business to enrich others rather than himself, a Testimony which *Spain* particularly allow'd him, and which gives Reputation to his Generosity. If you require any Proofs, Sir, of what I here advance, I must tell you, that without any Manner of Fee or Reward, he advanced certain *Spaniards*, to him unknown, who were of Quality, though poor, to the highest Posts in the Kingdom; and I can assure you, that all *Madrid* confess, even at this Day, that it will be a hard Matter to find out a Prelate as charitable as he was; for besides the great Alms he caus'd to be distributed to Families in Distress, who were ashamed to beg, he was never known to turn away a poor Beggar without giving him a *Julio*, (which is an *Italian* 5*d*) Hitherto, Sir, you have seen after what Manner Cardinal *Alberoni* intended to embroil all *Europe*, and to disturb its Tranquillity; how he has been charg'd as the Author of an ungodly sacrilegious War, as having invaded Ecclesiastical Estates, as having been the sworn Enemy of the Holy Father, of the Holy See, and of the City of *Rome*.

But all this is nothing to what comes next, viz. his being accused of a Design to turn *Turk*. This is, Sir, one of the grand Articles in the Charge against his Eminency.

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His Enemies will have it, that he was strongly inclined to turn *Turk*. As for my own Part, who don't believe a Title of it, but take it only to be a fantastical Fiction, if you have been credulous enough to give into it, I shall go no farther about to undeceive you, than just to put you in Mind of the fair Opportunity which Cardinal *Alberoni* had to pass over to *Constantinople*, when he had the whole World to range, and yet could not be sure where to be safe. He would, without Doubt, have been then very welcome at the Porte, since it is insinuated, in order to put the better Colour upon this Accusation, that while he was in the Spanish Ministry, he held a Correspondence with the Ottoman Ministers, and was Master of all their Secrets. But you will say, That surely no body of Common Sense would offer to mention such Things before the Tribunal of a Sovereign Pontiff. You are very much in the Right; and yet this has been done without much Regard either to the Holy See, or to Cardinal *Alberoni*.

But taking it for granted, that his Eminency did maintain a secret Correspondence with *Turks*; does it follow from thence, that he had a Design to turn *Mussulman*, and that he had renounc'd his Religion? Does France cease to be Christian, because she has Treaties with the Porte, and receives her Embassadors, and does the Court of *Rome* object this as a Crime to one of the Prime Ministers of his most Christian Majesty? The World still remembers what pass'd at the Siege of *Mezza*, when that unfortunate City was attack'd by the French and *Turkish* Vessels in Conjunction. Yet the Holy See neither said nor did any thing to the Minister of the most Christian King, tho' he was a Cardinal. Why then shal one be temporis'd with, and another treated with the utmost Severity?

Every body knows that the Prince *de Cellamare*, the Spanish Ambassador at *Paris*, having receiv'd an Express from Prince *Rasotski*, with a Letter for his Catholick Majesty, sent it forward to *Madrid*, and recommended it to Cardinal *Alberoni*. The Person deputed to carry it was a French Officer, whom his Eminency introduced to the King, with the Letter from the Prince for the King, and another received by that Prelate. Over and above what was contain'd in the two Letters, this Officer desired two Things by Word of Mouth, *viz.* Arms and Ammunition, and that his Catholick Majesty would be pleas'd to send a Residant to the said Prince, in order to give him the more Weight at the Porte. The first Proposition was reject'd, tho' it might have been granted well enough, if the Prince
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who implor'd Succours for the recovering of his Dominions, had been a Catholick. But the second was accepted, partly to do Honour to the Memory of Lewis XIV, who had taken that unhappy Prince under his Protection. Accordingly, an Envoy was dispatch'd, and his Instructions import'd, That it was to do an Honour to Prince Ragotski, and that he should be careful not to hold any Correspondence with the Ministers of the Porte. The Minister immediately wrote a Letter, giving Advice of his Arrival at *Adrianople*; and in a second Letter he signify'd, That his Person had been of no Service to the Prince, tho' he had done all that was in his Power to introduce him to the Ministers of the Grand Seignior. Upon this, the Court of *Madrid* order'd their Envoy to return, without Cardinal *Alberoni's* writing one Word to him about the Matter, any more than to the Prince *Ragotski*, who, by the Way, complain'd heavily against his Eminency. This now, Sir, is the Sum and Substance of all Cardinal *Alberoni's* Intelligence with the Ottoman Porte; for if there had been any thing more in it, his Enemies would not have failed of improving it to his Disadvantage.

'Tis agreed, That the first Step Cardinal *Alberoni* made towards *Spain*, consisted in his Intrigues with the Court of *France*, by Means of the Duke of *Alba*, then Ambassador at *Paris*, in order to determine the Duke de *Vendosme* to take upon him the chief Command of his Catholick Majesty's Troops. He succeeded, and the Prince set out with him, tho' he was at that Time no more than plain Abbot. They were scarce arriv'd in the Neighbourhood of *Bayonne*, but they heard of the Defeat of the *Castilians* near *Saragossa*, and of the false Rumour that Philip V. was mortally wounded in the Battel. There need'd nothing more to discourage the Duke de *Vendosme*, and to make him resolve to return from whence he came; and tho' he would have done infallibly, if Cardinal *Alberoni* had not vigorously represented to him, that by going back he would tarnish his Glory, dishearten the King's Friends, and compleatly ruin the Hopes they had entertain'd of retrieving the Affairs of the Crown of *Spain*: But if on the contrary, he would be pleas'd to advance into the Country, the loyal *Spaniards* would take Courage; and their Enemies Hearts would fail them. These Remonstrances were so effectual, that the Duke of *Vendosme* push'd as far as *Bayonne*, where, as an Aggravation of his Misfortune, he was attack'd with the Gout. There being an absolute Necessity to persuade the Prince again, and to get over this Obstacle; this was

what was perform'd by Cardinal *Alberoni*. I shall not speak here of the Heroick Actions of that Prince. 'Tis very well known, that he conquer'd his Enemies; and by his Valour, and his other Virtues, retriev'd the Honour of the *Spanish* Monarchy. The Duke of *Vendosme* dying in the Kingdom of *Valencia*, Cardinal *Alberoni* resided at *Madrid* in Quality of Envoy from the Duke of *Parma*, and there it was that, in some Conferences with the Dutcheffs of *Ursins*, he began the Treaty of Marriage between his Catholick Majesty and the Princess of *Parma*, and carry'd it on with so much Address and Secrecy, that he happily succeeded, to the great Surprize of all the Courts of *Europe*.

After the Conclusion of that important Affair, Cardinal *Alberoni* took the Reins of Government into his Hands, and from that Time People of the clearest Sight, perceiv'd that it was the Aim of their new Minister to make every Thing contribute to the Glory of his Prince, and the Advantage of the Monarchy, both by re-establishing a lost Trade, and by setting the Marine Affairs on a good Footing: Indeed the then Posture of the *Spanish* Affairs could not but give him a World of Pain: The *Indies* having been abandon'd for above thirty Years to Foreigners; the Kingdom being left without Troops, without Arms, and without Artillery, and with very little Money, without the Means of getting more; the Country without Manufactures, and by Consequence oblig'd to buy every Thing of Foreigners: In a Word, the Royal Treasury was so exhausted; and not to speak of the calamitous Times of *Charles II.* who, for Want of Money, could not go so often as he would into the Country, Affairs were in so dismal a Condition, that the Cardinal had much ado to find Money to pay for some Coaches made at *Paris* by the late Queen's Order, and which were retain'd there for 30000 Livres, besides the 70000 Pistoles which were due to *M. Boucher*, a Merchant at *Paris*, and the Sums of Money which the *Spanish* Merchants were oblig'd to take up at 12 per Cent. Interest, to enable them to load their Gallies.

Yet for all this, don't think, Sir, that Cardinal *Alberoni* was daunted: His noble Courage was not cast down; and one Day, when his Majesty was talking with him about redressing his Finances, he protested, That if his Majesty could but keep the Kingdom from being engag'd in any Foreign or Civil War for the Space of five Years only, he had form'd such a Plan as would go a great Way to make him the

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most formidable Monarch in Europe, both by Sea and Land. To bring this noble Design to pass, he began with purging the Kingdom of a vast Number of Bloodsuckers that prey'd upon the Vitals of the Prince and his People: With that View he turn'd off the useless Mouths from the Court and Household; and by his Means the Life-Guards were broke and disbanded. It was he also who suppress'd the four Treasurers, and substituted Receivers or Book-keepers in their Place, by which Reform, great Sums that were left in Course of Payment, return'd into the King's Hand, and the Current which had been stopp'd up, began to flow into his Majesty's Coffers.

You may easily imagine, Sir, that all these Retrenchments could not but create his Eminency a great many Enemies; but he was a Man of too much Resolution to be shock'd, and the Interests of his King and Country were at the same Time too precious to him, to make him flag in the Prosecution of what he had so happily undertaken and brought to pass. But this was not all; for now it was necessary to fill the great Posts with Persons of the greatest Worth; and this he perform'd with so much Oeconomy in the Promotion of Persons to both Military and Civil Stations, that without Regard to Recommendations from any Quarter whatsoever, he who had the most Merit was the best rewarded. 'Tis well known, that the Court of Madrid keeps a great many Secretaries, whom they trust with most of their Affairs, even of the greatest Concern, and that by their Negligence or Death some important Deeds used to be lost, so as never to be recover'd when call'd for. Cardinal Alberoni remedy'd this Abuse by erecting an Office at his own House, to which every Secretary was oblig'd to bring his Papers, and where he used to give about an Hour's Attendance, and then walk'd abroad for Refreshment. The Things being at yet brought to Maturity, he made a Chancery of the Place of *Uzeda*, in which he reposit'd all the publick Papers, after he had taken Care to send the most important to the Archives of *Simancas*. But this was not all neither; for he brought all the Courts of Justice to one Place, where you might see the Magistrates, the Councils, the Treasurer-Generals, and the Chamber of Accounts, &c. as it were under one Roof; and what was still more commodious for the Publick, was his publishing an Ordinance, enjoining the Courts to be kept open from One a-Clock in the Afternoon till Three, and to be open'd likewise in the Evening; and at the same Time he made Provision for augmenting

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the Salaries of the Officers, and for their being regularly paid.

The Cardinal not only signaliz'd his Justice, but his Charity. When Father *Daubenton* told him, that the late Queen had order'd Provision to be made for 80 poor Orphan Girls in a Sort of Hospital at *Madrid*, his Eminency went thither along with the said Father, and finding the House in a very sorry Condition, immediately took Care to have their Lodgings made better. He was at the sole Charge of curing 15 other Girls, who were all sick of a contagious Distemper, which was in Danger of spreading; but I mention this, Sir, only for the Sake of telling you how uneasy he was in his Mind till the Count de *Montery's* Palace, fix'd on for their better Accommodation, was compleatly repair'd, to which he likewise contributed out of his own Purse. When this was done, he set up the Arms of the King and Queen over the Gate of the House, and nam'd it the Royal College of our Lady *del Ampara* (or Protection). Here he caus'd those poor Girls to be lodg'd, after he had cloath'd them, and furnish'd their new Hospital with a vast Stock of Provisions.

Now, Sir, we will enter into the particular Parts of his Administration, and take a View of the great Advantages he has procur'd for *Spain*. It was he who erected at *Valladolid* (a fine City in *Castile*) that famous Woollen Manufacture which flourishes there at this Day, and furnishes Cloathing enough for the King's Army, whereas before, the *Spaniards* were oblig'd to import Stuffs from foreign Parts: an Undertaking for which he is the more to be admir'd, because there being a Scarcity of Water in the Place he chose for setting up the said Manufacture, he found a Way to bring it from the neighbouring River of *Elenares*, (or *Henares*) and thereby to furnish as much as was requir'd for the Use of the said Fabrick. Don't think, Sir, that he got the Workmen and chief Undertakers in *Spain*; no, *Holland* furnish'd him at one Time only with about 500 Families, who landed at *Bilboa*, with all the necessary Moveables and Tools, and these were the People he first set at Work. I might also mention the Dyer he procur'd out of *England*, and the great Number of little Boys from the Hospitals to help and prepare the Wooll; but, to be short, *Spain* was able, in a very little Time, to cloath her Troops without being beholden to Foreigners.

It was he also who set up a Fabrick for Linnen Cloth as fine as that of *Holland*, under the Direction of his good

Friend the Baron de Ripperda, formerly the Dutch Ambassador at *Madrid*, whom he converted to the Roman Catholic Religion. At the same Time, his Eminency understanding, that the Fathers of the Escorial had the sole Privilege of vending all over the *Spanish* Monarchy, Mass-books, Breviaries, and other Books of Devotion, and that they were oblig'd to send to *Antwerp* for them, he set up a fine Printing-House, that the good Fathers might print them at Home, and dispatch'd a License to Don John de Gonsche to erect a Glass House.

Thus indefatigable and successful was he in whatever he undertook. But he did not stop here. His grand Design was to relieve the *Spanish* Navigation, and re-establish their Commerce, and to this he apply'd himself with Success. After he had had several Conferences on this Subject with Merchants, and the most knowing Persons of all Nations, he resolv'd to make *Cadiz* the noblest and most famous Port in *Europe*, to erect Magazines and Arsenals there, and to set up Fabricks for Naval Stores. Then turning his Thoughts to the Subject of Trade, he immediately quash'd the Disputes of particular Traders, made another Plan, and reform'd the *Tariff*. In a Word, it was he who regulated the Tobacco Trade from *Havana*, a Trade which brings in a great deal more than it did formerly, both to the King and Kingdom. I might say much of the Castles of *Aranjuez* and *Madrid*, which he not only embellish'd, but render'd more commodious; but it may suffice to observe, that he remov'd an Abuse which had prevail'd there a long Time, viz. the great Charge of lodging the Moveables, belonging to the Crown in private Houses, for want of Room in the said Castles.

This is not all. He founded a College of 400 young Gentlemen at *Cadiz*, to which he invited celebrated Mathematicians to instruct them, especially in Navigation, to qualify them hereafter for Captains of Ships, and thereby to enable the *Spaniards* to shake off the Yoke of Foreigners. But you will say, perhaps, there are so many Difficulties to get over before this can be done, that 'tis never to be so much as thought of in *Spain*. I own that the Thing consider'd in itself, was, at that Juncture, a difficult Task. The Art of Building Ships, making Cordage and Sail-Cloth, was almost forgot; for it had been laid aside so long, that had it not been for *Holland* and some other Countries, the *Spaniards* would have been very much at a Loss for the necessary Rigging. But what

of

of all this! our Cardinal knew how to surmount all Difficulties.

In short, what did he do but bought several Men of War, and a good Number of Transports, causing all the necessary Rigging to be put on Board them. Then he took Care to have more made at *Havana*, whither he sent Workmen, especially of your Country; and without being discourag'd at the Sight of empty Magazines and Arsenals, he caus'd 14 Men of War to be built, three in *Catalonia*, and eleven in the Harbours of *Biscay*, to the Amazement of the whole Kingdom, of which those in the Ports of *Biscay* were burnt during the last War with *France*, in Presence of Colonel *Stanhope*, together with a great Quantity of Timber on Board fit for building Ships. And what would you say, if I should tell you, that his Eminency left above 800 Masts for Shipping in the Port of *Los Alfajes*?

America was become *Terra Incognita* even to *Spain*, it being so much neglected, that if the King wanted to have any News from the *Indies*, he was oblig'd to send away a Ship belonging to private Persons, which, at Times, cost an immense Sum of Money: In short, the vast Dominions of *Mexico* were open to all Foreigners, who being suffer'd as it were to run in prohibited Goods with Impunity, were thereby encourag'd to continue their Robbery. The Thing being of too great Moment to be disregarded, the Cardinal appointed eight light Ships to carry Orders from Court, and Letters from private Persons, and so well regulated their Departure and Return, that it look'd like a settled Post betwixt *Old* and *New Spain*. As to the Contraband Trade, he complain'd of it in *France*, and dispatch'd four large Men of War to cruise in the *South Sea*, which seiz'd, for the first Time, and as it were by Way of Reprisal, above five Millions of Pieces of Eight; but that which was the most agreeable Surprize of all to the *Spaniards*, was, to see Military Discipline re-establish'd in the Kingdom, the Troops paid and cloath'd, and both the Officer and Soldier zealous to do his Duty.

Artillery was such a Rarity in *Spain*, that the Citadel of *Pampluna* had but 14 Cannon either of Brass or Iron, and no Ammunition at all. And if the Key of the Kingdom was so ill provided, what must you think, Sir, of other Places? To remedy this so crying a Defect, Cardinal *Alberoni*, after having procur'd a vast Quantity of Metal from *Holland*, establish'd four Founderies, and set
Men

Men to work with so much Diligence, that when his Majesty was at *Pampeluna*, he saw a Train of 335 Pieces of Brass Cannon, with a great Quantity of Ammunition, and such an Abundance of Provisions, as were enough to have maintain'd a Garrison of 8000 Men for six Months, in Case of a Siege, and all this exclusive of the Train of Artillery sent to *Sardinia* and *Sicily*, the Number of which is not known. This was not all, his Eminency also reviv'd the Fabrick of Muskets and Iron Cannon, which was almost sunk in *Biscay*, and establish'd others five Leagues from *Madrid*, and at *Barcelona*, which saves the great Sums the *Spanish* Government was oblig'd to pay for Muskets to *France*.

Can you think, Sir, after all this, that his Eminency meant to oppress the People, and to load them with Taxes, in order to enrich himself with the Spoils of their Fortunes? Ah, Sir, were you but thoroughly sensible how formidable *Spain* would be, if she had always a consummate Minister at the Head of her Affairs, you would tell me quite another Story. Let but the Finances or Treasury be once wisely manag'd, Commerce well settled, the Disbursements of the Nation duly regulated, and I'll warrant the rest is easy to bring about. Thus it was, that the Cardinal, by putting these grand Maxims in Practice, hinder'd the King from contracting any Debt during his Ministry, eased the People of a great Number of Imposts, which lay heavy upon them, and by these Means it was, that to give the better Lustre to the Accession of a *Farnese* Princess to the *Spanish* Throne, he discharg'd the Kingdoms of *Aragon* and *Valencia*, as well as *Catalonia*, from those Taxes which the Crown had laid upon the Estates and Offices of every private Person.

'Tis equally surprizing, Sir, that during the last War which *Spain* carry'd on as it were against all *Europe*, yet the Kingdom contracted no Debt, and all the while his Eminency laid no Tax upon the People. 'Tis Matter of equal Astonishment, how his Eminency was able to furnish the immense Charges of two Expeditions, one against *Great Britain*, and the other against the Islands of *Sicily* and *Sardinia*; that his Eminency should remit about 700,000 Pistoles to *Messina* and *Porto Longone* in 1719, for the Maintenance of the Troops, and the Pay of the Garrisons; and that he should make the Citadels of *Barcelona* and *Pampeluna* so compleat, and, at the same Time, repair the Fortifications of *Ostlaric*, *Roses*, *Girona*, *Jaca*, *Castell-ciudad*, *Fontarabia*, and *St. Sebastian*. Yet all this

was

was *Spain* able to do under the Ministry of that Cardinal. But I beseech you look back, and see what a despicable Figure *Spain* made at the Congress of *Utrecht*.

She was then in so drooping a Condition, that her Ministers scarce had the Courage to open their Lips in Defence of her Rights, but saw her stripp'd of her Dominions in *Italy* and *Flanders*, without daring to speak one Word: She was once in such a Condition, that after the *Germans* had evacuated *Catalonia*, the whole Kingdom of *Spain* was not able to reduce the City of *Barcelona*, but was forc'd to beg Succours from *France*, without which it would have been altogether as impossible for her to have reduc'd the Inhabitants of *Majorca*. Yet this same *Spain*, so poor and so weak, saw herself, in the Compass of two Years, which was the Time that the Cardinal was Prime Minister, in a Condition to conquer the Kingdom of *Sardinia*, and speedily to rendezvous a Fleet of 400 Sail, on Board of which the embark'd 50000 Men, including 35000 of the regular Troops, which she put on Shore at *Palermo*, with 7000 Horses, 80 Mortars, 300 Cannon of different Bores, Ammunition, and Provisions for several Months, 20000 Muskets for arming the Peasants, and a Million of Pieces of Eight in ready Cash: In a Word, this Crown, which was so contemptible, has the Satisfaction to see the Ministers of two of the chief Powers in *Europe*, now at *Madrid*, offering and suing for Peace. Is such Success any what short of a Miracle; and is it possible to rob Cardinal *Alberoni* of the Glory of it, without apparent Injustice?

'Tis very probable therefore, that if his Ministry had been of a longer Duration, and if his Enemies, envious of his Happiness, or rather the Happiness of *Spain*, had not supplanted him, he had still nobler Designs to put in Execution; for he had resolv'd to take off the Impost, call'd *Los Milltones*, an insupportable Burden, which the People have groan'd under for a long Time: He intended to have sent for the *Spanish* Jesuit *de Castro* out of *Italy*, in order to found four Colleges for the young Nobility: He design'd to have introduc'd Fabricks of all Sorts into *Spain*; and had for that End engag'd the best Workmen of *England* and *France*, but eight Days before he left *Madrid*, besides a *Dutch* Engineer whom he had sent for to *Madrid*, to render the River *Manzanarez* navigable, for the better transporting to that City Provisions, and especially Wood and Coal, which are now carry'd thither on the Backs of Mules: Moreover, he had resolv'd to erect two *Spanish* Com-

Companies, for carrying on the Trade of the Nation to both the *East* and *West-Indies*; and forasmuch as there was an absolute Necessity for a safer Port than those of *Port-Passage* and *Santagend*, he had cast his Eyes upon *Ferol* in *Galicia*, in order to make a secure Harbour there, both against Tempests, and Invaders; and with this View it was, that after having held a Conference with the *Marques de Risbourg*, Governor of *Galicia*, he dispatch'd him with 40000 Pieces of Eight, to set Workmen upon it.

'Tis easy to conceive, that such vast Undertakings could not but create him great Enemies abroad; and this was really the Consequence, inasmuch, that my Lord *Stanhope*, being then at *Madrid*, and observing the Measures which Cardinal *Alberoni* took to retrieve the Affairs of the Kingdom, said, *If Spain goes on at this Rate, and has the same Success in the other Establishments she has in View, there is no Power will be able to resist her.* For never was a Minister known, who was more indefatigable in his Application to the Good of his Country than his Eminency, which made several Persons say, *They had rather be Slaves at Algier, than live as Cardinal Alberoni did at the Court of Madrid.*

In short, I am at a Loss to conceive how it was possible for one Man alone to form such prodigious Undertakings, and how he was able to put the greatest Part of them in Execution in so short a Space of Time. 'Tis true, he was a Man of a strong Constitution, and that he was as temperate as he was healthy, contenting himself with one or two Meals a Day without Wine, and without Suppers; so that 'tis next to a Miracle, how a Person, thro' whom every Thing circulated, was able to support himself under so mighty a Burthen.

But now you will say, perhaps, How comes *Spain* to persecute so great a Man, who has done her such vast Service? How comes he to be driven out of the Country with Disgrace, and render'd hateful to all the Powers abroad? Why, Sir, 'tis what I am not wise enough to account for, without having Recourse to certain Reasons of State which are kept Secret, or to the Capriciousness of his Destiny; for all the Complaints which have been form'd against him, and which have been made publick, appear to be notoriously false. And if you should ask his Eminency the Question, he will tell you, *that he has said several Times to others, That he knows nothing of it; and that he should think himself very happy if he did, that*

he might have thereby an Opportunity to justify himself. But the greatest Wonder of all is to come.

When his Disgrace was known at *Madrid*, and when he was order'd, in the King's Name, to depart the Kingdom, he had such a prodigious Levee of the Nobility, Gentry, and Clergy at his House to wish him farewell, and to condole his Misfortunes, that the Court being uneasy to see him so much taken Notice of, oblig'd him to leave *Madrid* a Day sooner than the Term prescrib'd. Do you account for this Conduct if you can; for my Part I own 'tis a Riddle to me, and I can ascribe his Disgrace to nothing else but the Jealousy of foreign Princes, who could not but take Umbrage, when they saw with what Application and Success his Eminency labour'd to render *Spain* formidable by Sea and Land: And I cannot help thinking, that his constant Refusal of entering into the Triple Alliance, might also contribute to his Downfall.

All the World knows the Peace of *Utrecht* was very disadvantageous to *Spain*, and that it cost that Monarchy, *Gibraltar*, *Port-Mahon*, with the whole Island, the Treaty of *Assiento*, and the Renunciation of the Crown of *France* by his present Majesty, and his Descendants for ever. But Cardinal *Alberoni* had it very much at Heart to redress what had been done too hastily, and without the free Consent of King *Philip*, who was oblig'd to sacrifice all this for the Preservation of his Crown: He endeavour'd to dispose the contracting Powers to recede from some of the above mention'd Articles, and to restore to the King, his Master, some of that Glory which had been taken from him; insomuch, that one Day when the *English* Ministers complain'd to him how backward the *Spaniards* were in executing the respective Conventions, and especially the Treaty of *Utrecht*, his Eminency answer'd them in these very Words, *You tell me of a Treaty made for the Devil.* — But now let us enter a little into the Motives which the Powers had to make first a Triple, and then a Quadruple Alliance.

The Dominions which *Spain* possess'd in *Italy* before the Treaty of *Utrecht*, falling to the House of *Austria*, it was but necessary for the Emperor to think upon the Ways and Means of preserving them. He had formidable Enemies who gave him no little Uneasiness, viz. the *Turks*, and some other Neighbours, who aim'd at enlarging their Power; besides, in Case of an Attack, how was it possible for him to keep his Ground, and to send for Troops a great Way off to defend his Country, and repulse the In-

vaders after they had once set Foot in it? The Places were not provided, nor could they be put into a good Posture without a great deal of Time. Consider then, Sir, if the Emperor had not good Cause to enter into the Tripple Alliance, and do you be the Judge, whether, if he had not done so, he had preserv'd *Italy* against the Arms of *Spain*, which began to be formidable, and whose Forces increas'd every Day.

You know, Sir, that the then State of Affairs both in *France* and *England*, made the Emperor's Concurrence with them necessary for their own Security: For this End was form'd the Quadruple Alliance; and it may be said, that those two Crowns had a greater View to their own Safety and Tranquillity, than to that of *Europe*; for they took that Opportunity to make up what they thought defective in the Treaty of *Utrecht*. *France* desires the King of *Spain* to make a new Renunciation of that Crown, as well for himself as for his Successors: *France* was afraid, lest in Procefs of Time, the Renunciation might be superseded as invalid, because it was obtain'd *Vi & Armis*, and thought that such new Renunciation would be much the more voluntary and free, as it would be made in Time of Peace, promising, in Exchange, to get *Spain* admitted into the Quadruple Alliance, and all the Benefits thereof. But this Generosity was so far from dazling the Eyes of Cardinal *Alberoni*, that he had the Courage to tell his Catholick Majesty, That he ought to consider well before he bound up his Hands by any such Engagement, or else he would do irreparable Injury both to himself and the whole Royal Family, and that the Sails ought not to be furl'd without a Necessity. The young King of *France*, says he, your Nephew, is in good Health; to what Purpose is it then to think about his Succession? Besides, the former Renunciation is either valid, or it is not. If it is valid, what need is there of another? If it is not, what Need is there for making one so valid as to tie up your Majesty's Hands? The Hint was follow'd, and *France* was disgusted; nevertheless, a very civil Answer was return'd viz. That his Catholick Majesty depended upon the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and thought it not worth his while to have Recourse to any other Alliance.

On the other Hand, Great Britain dreading Cardinal *Alberoni*'s Intrigues with the Pretender, who was sent for into *Spain*, endeavour'd to frustrate all his Eminency's prodigious Designs. The vast Number of Spies he kept in Pay to learn every Thing that pass'd, was a very great Eye-sore, and especially the Cardinal's League with the late

late King of Sweden, inſomuch, that King *George*, in his Speech at the Opening of his Parliament, complain'd ſharply againſt the Cardinal and his Undertakings. Now behold *France* and *England* united in Interests againſt Cardinal *Alberoni*, and ſeeking to ſupplant and diſgrace him, on Pretence, that *Europe* would never be at reſt ſo long as he ſate at the Helm of the *Spaniſh* Affairs.

A Reſolution being taken accordingly by thoſe two Powers, the chief Management of the Affair was committed to my Lord *Peterborough*, who, by his Voyages to *Italy*, had all Opportunities that could be to perform his Commiſſion. He ſound out a Way to render the Cardinal odious at ſeveral Courts, where before, he was countenanc'd, and he ſucceeded ſo well, that, by the Help of ſome Monks, or bigotted Priests, the Reports he had ſpread were carry'd as far as *Madrid*, and told to the King. At firſt his Maſteſty gave little or no Heed to them; but they were ſo often rung in his Ears, that at length he believ'd ſome, if not all of them: And that being artfully pitch'd upon as a proper Juncture for propoſing the Triple Alliance between *France*, *Spain*, and *England*, and the Propoſal being of itſelf very inviting, the King turn'd off his Miniſter, would hear no more of his Lectures in Politicks, and faced about all at once to the Cardinal's Enemies. That, Sir, is what I think occaſion'd his Eminency's Fall.

The Author of the Letter proceeds with ſome Political Remarks on the four contracting Powers, (*viz. Germany, Great Britain, France, and Holland*) and then paſſes to this Dilemma, which is an Argument uſed at *Rome* in his Eminency's Juſtification. Perſons who are entirely neuter, ſay, that Cardinal *Alberoni* is either innocent, as appears, in that every Charge againſt him has been prov'd to be falſe, or elſe he is guilty of ſome Crimes which are unknown. If he is innocent, does his Catholick Maſteſty, who has never appear'd in the Proceſs againſt him, either as an Actor or Abettor, and whoſe Conſcience and Piety are the Admiration of his People; does he, I ſay, lend his Name for the Perſecution of an innocent Miniſter, a Clergyman, a Biſhop, and a Cardinal? No, all that have the Honour to know the King of *Spain*, will never believe it.

But if the Cardinal is guilty, and deſerves Chaiſtife-ment, it ought to be very light, conſidering how long he has endur'd all Manner of Fatigue, encounter'd all Dangers, and how low he is ſunk in his Credit; For, in

a Word, Sir, don't you think that he hath suffer'd enough in Conscience? To be banish'd from the Court of *Madrid*, and the whole Kingdom of *Spain*; to have his Raggage and Papers taken from him, without being permitted to pass into *Portugal* for the greater Security of his Person; to be attack'd in *Catalonia* by a great Band of Miquelets, who put him in Danger of his Life; to be arrested in *Italy*; to be compell'd to shift by himself, and to wander in the Mountains without Cloaths fit for Travelling, and often without Provisions; to be oblig'd to shun all the Ambushes laid to take him, and, by Consequence to put him to Death; and, finally, to be accus'd with so much Fury at *Rome*, as to be branded, without the least Decorum, with the odious Characters of an ungodly, sacrilegious, cursed Mifcreant, &c. These, I think, are Mortifications bad enough with a Vengeance, without need of putting him under farther Severities. But it is truly to be admir'd in his Eminency, that this Prosecution, notwithstanding it has been so cruel, never provok'd him to utter an unhandsome Word of either the King, the Queen, or the *Farnese* Family; which a Person of great Note observing some Time ago, could not help asking his Eminency the Reason, who answer'd him, *I am to suffer for all their Catholick Majesty's Favours, but hope to satisfy the whole World, that I have not deserv'd such Treatment.* ✓

*This Apology for Cardinal *Alberoni*, which is agreed on all Hands was written by himself, discovers several particular Intrigues, to which the World were altogether Strangers, or of which, at least, they had but imperfect Accounts. It is indeed a fair Side of the Medal; but that our Readers may not be impos'd upon by the specious Representations of this Cardinal, it is but reasonable to give them the Answer to this Piece, which is no less curious than the Letter itself: But being too long to be inserted in this *Register*, we shall refer it to our next; and only here observe, that these two Pieces highly deserve to be preserv'd in this Collection, because they contain many important Transactions, which, perhaps, would have been bury'd in Oblivion, and never be treated of in a General History, were they not preserv'd in Collections of this Nature. We proceed now to an Affair of yet greater Moment, of which *Italy* likewise is the Scene; and which we will give our Readers under the Title of

TUSCANY

TUSCANY.

THE Succession to the Dominions of *Tuscany* is Matter of great Uneasiness, particularly to the Pope, and other States of *Italy*; and if it should not be amicably settled, will infallibly involve most of the Princes of *Europe* in a new War. The *Spaniards* pretend to secure the Succession to the Infant *Don Carlos*, while the *Germans* assert, That that Dutchy is but a Fief of the Empire, and consequently in Default of Male Heirs, ought to revert to the Imperial Crown. The Pretensions of both these contending Parties cannot be set in a clearer Light, than in the two following Pieces; the first of which is

An Abstract of the Memorial drawn up by the Ministers of Tuscany, proving that Dutchy to be a free State, and absolutely independent on the Emperor and Empire.

THE Author of the Memorial denies, in the first Place, that the Emperor or Empire have any Manner of Right over the whole State of *Tuscany*, and seems to be surpriz'd, that the Powers of the Quadruple Alliance are made to believe, that the whole State of *Tuscany* is a Fief of the Empire; a Mistake, which, he says, might have been avoided, if the Great Duke had been consulted about it, as it was but Reason to expect.

Then the Author proceeds directly to the main Point, and affirms, That the Republick of *Florence* has been entirely independent on the Empire ever since it had a Being: That it has always been govern'd by its own Laws, and by its own Magistrates, who were at first call'd Consuls, then Elders, and at last Priors, who deriv'd all their Authority from the People that chose them, without being confirm'd by any other Power: That the said Republick has been expos'd to various Shocks, but always prevented the Consequence in Time; and that it has so well maintain'd its Liberty, that when the Civil Wars demanded a Reform in the State, Recourse was had to the Holy See for restoring Peace among the Inhabitants, and for granting them new Regulations, without the least Participation of the Empire.

After this, the Author quotes a great Number of Civilians, who all agree, tho' in different Terms, that the City of *Florence* being independent on the Empire, has

as much Power within its own Domain, as the Emperor has in his.

The Author then proceeding to the Enquiries made by the Imperial Ministers in the Chanceries of *Vienna*, the Empire, and *Milan*, concerning the Independency of the City of *Florence*, says, That they could make no Discovery to the Prejudice of its Freedom; and that the Possession of so precious a Prerogative comes from God: That this Advantage was not injur'd by the Settlement of the Principality on the present reigning Family, but, that on the contrary, its Independency has been rather confirm'd since that Time: That *Charles V.* was not concern'd in the new Form of Government, any otherwise than first as an Ally of the Pope, afterwards as a Mediator between the Family of *Medicis* and the Republick; and, lastly, as an Arbitrator chosen by the said Parties.

The Author observes, That he was concern'd as an Ally with Pope *Clement VII.* when, in Pursuance of the Treaty concluded with him at *Barcelona* on the 29th of *June*, 1529, whereby he engag'd himself to assist in the re-establishing of the Family of *Medicis* at *Florence*, and to procure the Restoration of that Authority they had lost during the Troubles of the Republick, he sent Auxiliary Forces to the Pope to besiege *Florence*. From hence the Author infers, That the Emperor having made no Stipulation in the said Treaty, as if he had any Design to bring the Republick under Subjection to the Empire, but only to restore the Family of *Medicis* to their Rights and Privileges, there is no Appearance therefore, that when he restor'd them to their former Authority, he meant to reserve a Jurisdiction, from which the Family had till then been exempt; and, finally, that as the Pope alone is vested by the said Treaty with the Power of disposing of the Government of *Florence*, so 'tis clear, that *Charles V.* had nothing to do with the most important Point of all, that is to say, the Independency of this State.

That the said Emperor was concern'd as Mediator, when, after a long Siege, (of *Florence*) the Preliminary Articles of the Treaty of Peace were regulated, by the Interposition of *Don Fernand de Gonzagues*, General of the Imperial Army, between the Commissaries of the Republick of *Florence*, and *Bartholomew Vallori*, the Pope's Commissary-General, conformably to the Treaty of *Barcelona*, which is therein positively revok'd. That this his Quality of Mediator appear'd by the first of the Preliminary Articles,

by

by which it was agreed, That to restore a good Peace, and to regulate the Government, the Emperor should be empower'd to give a proper Form to it within the Space of four Months, with this exprefs Condition, That the Freedom of the Republick should in no wise be thereby injur'd. That this Provision, which limits the Power given to the Emperor, plainly shews, that the said Power is not annex'd to his Imperial Dignity: That besides, the Office of a Mediator would nor^e have suited him, if he had had any Jurisdiction over that State, it being monstrous for a Prince to put off his Character of Sovereign in treating with his Subjects, in order to put on that of the Mediator, which better becomes any Foreigner whatsoever.

Finally, That *Charles V.* appear'd in the Quality of an Arbitrator, because it was only by Virtue of the Power which was granted him, that he gave Judgment for the Form of Government: That the *German* Civilians are mistaken to call that an Investiture, which is only a Sentence of Arbitration; forasmuch as the said Act was solemnly accepted by the Magistrates, after they had thank'd the Emperor for his Preservation of their Freedom. 'Twas this, if one may say so, which consummated the Re-establishment of the Principality in the Reigning Family, who, according to a Remark of *Guicciardin*, had already taken Possession of it, even four Months before the Sentence of *Charles V.* by Virtue of a Regulation made by the thirteen Reformers of the State, commission'd for that Purpose by the Publick, who receiv'd *Alexander* with great Acclamations.

N. B. This Family of *Medicis*, according to the most approv'd Historians, has been continu'd in a Succession of Great Men, from *Philip de Medicis*, who liv'd about the Middle of the thirteenth Century, and was Great Grandfather to *Everard II.* whose two Sons, *Juvenus* and *Clarissimus* founded two Branches, of which *Alexander* above-mention'd, was of the eldest Branch, and from him descended *Cosmo III.* the present Grand Duke. Our Authors add, That the said *Alexander* was created Hereditary Sovereign Duke of *Florence* in 1530, by the Emperor *Charles V.* who was prevail'd upon by Pope *Clement VII.* to besiege the City, which, after two Years Resistance, surrender'd. But we need not doubt to see this controverted Affair set in a clear Light, by the Answer to this Memorial, which has been drawn up by some of the best Pens in *Germany*. 'Tis said, the Author, after having demonstrated that *Charles V.* was no more than an Ally, a Mediator, and an Arbitrator,

Arbitrator, in the Settlement of the Principality at *Florence*, and in the Treaty for the New Form of Government, observes, That if the Emperor had had any Pretension to the Domains of that State, then was his Time to have renew'd his Claim, either by requiring an Oath of Fidelity from the new Prince and the *Florentines*, or Homage from that Prince, or that he should have taken the Investiture, or else by declaring, that his Act and Deed was an Effect of his Imperial Dignity; but that, in the mean Time, far from taking that Precaution, he declar'd, *That this particular Concern for the Peace and Freedom of Italy, and the Republicks, was what had induc'd him to make that Regulation; and that if he had not had Authority for what he had done from the Convention between the Parties concern'd, he would never have thought of the Undertaking.* That the said Emperor wanted not Power nor Zeal to make himself Master of such a Purchase, especially considering the *Florentines* were not in a Condition to oppose it. This Reflection, adds the Author, is so agreeable to the Nature of the Thing, that the most eminent Civilians in Germany make Use of it to establish the Freedom of *Florence*.

He proceeds, That the Pope had as much Right as the Emperor, to claim a perpetual Superiority over *Florence*, because, upon the like Occasions, the Popes *Benedict XI.* and *Clement IV.* restor'd Peace to that Republick, and gave a better Form to the Government: That the Duke *Alexander* being at *Naples*, nobly rejected the Proposal that was made to him by the Emperor's Ministers, *To acknowledge himself a Feudatory Prince of the Empire upon honourable Conditions;* and that preferring Flight to Slavery, he chose to come to *Florence*, and defend himself against the Exiles, rather than to purchase Assistance at the Expence of the State's Freedom.

Then the Author, proceeding to the Election of *Cosmo I.* *Alexander's* Successor, says, That the Senate being assembled, chose that Prince exclusive of *Julian de Medicis*, who, by Virtue of *Charles* the Vth's Sentence of Arbitration, stood fairest to succeed that Duke as the nearest of Kin, *Lawrence*, his eldest Brother, being out of the Question, because he had forfeited all his Right by the Murder of his Brother: That, in the mean Time, neither the Emperor, nor his Minister at *Florence*, made any Complaint of this Preference, which was confirm'd also by the Court of *Vienna's* suffering the following remarkable

ble Inscription to stand at the Foot of the said *Cosmo's* Statue *PLENIS LIBERISQUE Senatorum VOTIS, REIPUBLICÆ FLORENTINÆ DUX RENUNCIATUR*, that is to say, *The Senators having the full and entire Liberty of their Suffrages, have chose him Duke of the Republick of Florence.*

The Author proceeds afterwards to consider those *Italian* and *German* Authors who liv'd under the Emperor's Dominion, and who have unanimously advanc'd, That the Great Dukes of *Tuscany* are absolute Masters and Sovereign Princes in that State, that all the Rights of Majesty belong to them, and that they only differ from the Kings of *France* and *Spain* in the Extent of Authority, as having not so much Territory under their Jurisdiction. He adds, That the Bull of *Pius V.* giving the Title of Great Duke to *Cosmo I.* imports, in plain Terms, That they shall not be subject to any other Power, because of the Sovereign Domain which he has over the State of *Florence*. That the said Pope also explain'd himself more clearly, when he answer'd the Imperial Ministers, who complain'd of some Expressions in the said Bull, That the City of *Florence* had always been free, that what it had done was done by its own Citizens, who had the Power, as they were free, to dispose of themselves and their City; and that in the War of 1530, all that *Charles V.* did, was only to help one of the Parties, namely, one of those who were out of their Country, and that thereby he acquir'd no Superiority over *Florence*. That it was not enough to say, That the Emperor had a Right to dispose of the Succession of *Florence*, but that Proof ought to be made of it, by producing the Investitures, Oaths of Fidelity, and Homage, especially when the Matter in Question relates to a Country which has been in Possession of its Freedom for many Centuries. It being certain in Law, adds the Author, that every Prince, who taking Advantages of the Weakness and Decay of the *Roman Empire* to recover its Freedom, has founded Kingdoms independent on any Power, and who have held them for many Ages exempt from any Subordination to the Empire, may, tho' he had other Title, defend himself against the Emperor, merely by the Prescription of so long a Time.

From hence the Author infers, That the Mediation of *Charles V.* could not prejudice the Freedom of this State; and that it's a Truth which the contracting Powers seem to have acknowledg'd in that very Passage from whence

they pretend to destroy the Independency of *Florence*, because they have laid it down as a Rule, *That its Domain shall not begin to be acknowledg'd as a Fief depending on the Empire, 'till hereafter, saving the Possession of the present Princes in its utmost Extent.*

The Author proceeds to take Notice of the following Objections rais'd by the German Civilians, to prove that the State of *Florence* is a Fendatary of the Empire, viz. That the Sale of its Liberty made to the *Florentines* by the Emperor *Rodolph*, is supposititious; and that tho' it were real, no Use could be made of it, because the Superiority of the Empire is unalienable, and not subject to Prescription; that the *Florentines* sent Embassadors to *Maximilian*, to make their Submission; that the said Prince receiv'd 4000 Crowns of Gold from them, and then confirm'd their Privileges, so that they only enjoy their Liberty by a precarious Title; that *Charles the Fifth's* Sentence of Arbitration makes Mention of certain Immunities granted them by the Emperor, and that it was positively stipulated, That the State of *Florence* shall remain subject to the Disposal of the Roman Empire; and that if the said Republic fail in its Engagements, and violate the new establish'd Form of Government, it should be subject to the common Punishments, &c.

The *Florentines* agree (says the Memorialist) that *Rodolph's* Sale is supposititious, but that before that Time *Florence* enjoy'd perfect Liberty; and that then, and afterwards, it opposed the Emperors and their Vicars in *Italy*, whenever they were for exacting any Act of Subordination from the Republic; that tho' the said Sale had not been imaginary, *Florence* has Prescription, such a Prescription as must for ever silence the Pretensions of the Empire, and secure the Repose of those Societies which are separate from it; that nothing is more groundless than the pretended Submission of the *Florentines* to the Emperor *Maximilian*; for they order'd their Embassadors to represent to that Prince, that nothing was more agreeable to his laudable Design of pacifying *Italy*, than to procure the Restitution of *Pisa* to the *Florentines*; because from that Source came all the Deliberations equally prejudicial to them and their Allies; that it was not reasonable for him who has been unjustly plunder'd, to be obliged to put his Rights to a Reference, before he is restored to Possession; that the Authority of *Paul Jure*, a partial Historian, can avail nothing upon this Occasion; and that even though his Authority were of any Repute, yet it ought not to be so much

much minded in the present Case, where the Matter in Question is rather a Point of Law than of Fact; and because it is not the Business of Historians to decide any thing about the Independency of a State, but of Lawyers, to whom this Matter belongs, *ex professo*. That as to *Charles the Fifth's* Sentence of Arbitration, there's no Advantage to be made by the Clauses which it contains; that the Privileges granted by that Emperor, are only mere Concessions, which do not prejudice Sovereignty, no more, (says *Sauren*) than if the Dukes of Florence granted the Portuguese an Exemption from Tolls in their Dominions; that these Words *Fides* and *Devotio*, can only refer to the Fidelity of them to whom it was granted; and that the Title of Protection does not import Jurisdiction, especially when the Parties make an Agreement, as was done in Favour of Florence, that its Liberty should by no means be prejudiced. That if a Protector acquires any Right over the Person he protects, the Pope would be under the same Predicament as Florence, because, in the 14th Article of the Treaty of Barcelona, *Charles the Fifth* stipulated to protect the Person of the Pope, the Family of Medicis, their Estate, &c. and the Pope on his Part accepted the Emperor's Protection.

Nothing more remains, (says the Author) but to confute an Argument of *Pfessinger*, a modern Writer, who thinks he has been so fortunate as to find a Proof of the Dependency of this State, in the History of the latter Times; For, says he, no longer ago than 1692, the Republick paid great Sums of Money to the Emperor, for the various Occasions of the Empire.

To this, the Author of the Memorial makes the following Answer, That 'tis very true, that after the Subjection and Vassalage of a State is once prov'd, it is natural to conclude, that upon certain Occasions, such State is obliged to pay Subsidies; and that the Argument, *Such a State is subject, therefore it must contribute*, is very well founded: But that it was never yet heard, that by a State's being forced to pay Sums of Money to a Prince, it becomes therefore his Subject and Vassal: That on the other Hand, *Mayor* and *Block*, two other German Civilians, assert, That Levies of this Nature are made by Force; that the bare Murmuring of those who are obliged to pay, interrupts the Prescription; and that the Reason of it is this, viz. That he who fears, does not enter a Caveat, or Protest, when he might do it without any Danger.

That for the rest, the *German* Author above-mention'd has omitted several Circumstances, necessary for understanding the Fact he mentions, viz. That the Emperor never demanded Subsidies for *Florence*, but only for those Fiefs of which the Great Duke desir'd the Investiture; that the Person sent to demand such Subsidies, always furnishes an exact Note of the Fiefs and their Tax; that the Emperor *Leopold* did at that Time cause it to be declared by the Marshal *Craffa*, That the Overplus Money paid for the Contingent of the said Fiefs should be understood to be furnish'd for other Titles, and should not be drawn into a Precedent. And finally, that the Great Duke now reigning, made his Protestations on that Head, to the Electoral College, at the Time of the present Emperor's Election, which Protestations have always been renew'd.

From thence the Author proceeds to the Effects which ought to be expected from this Memorial, and says, That the Court of *Florence* hopes, that the Empire will acknowledge that it has no Right to dispose of the Succession of the Dominions of *Tuscany*; and that the said Court does not doubt that the Emperor will be the first to abandon an Opinion which his Imperial Majesty would always have abhorr'd, if there had been an Opportunity sooner to have demonstrated, that the said Opinion only owes its Origin to Flattery which he ever abominated; that the Court of *Florence* is so far perswaded of the Sentiments of Equity which are natural to his Imperial Majesty, that tho' the Emperor should become even more powerful than really he is, they can't believe he would ever exert his Power to the prejudice of Justice, or oppress that Liberty which a State has been in Possession of for several Centuries.

The Author adds, That 'tis not to be doubted but the Truths which are set in a clear Light, in the said Memorial, will produce the Effect that ought to be expected from them, with the other contracting Powers; and that if their Regard to Justice be equal to their Zeal for Peace, they will revoke the Expedient which they had in their Heads, to make all *Tuscany* a Fief of the Empire; that the Concurrence with the Great Duke, and the Hereditary Prince his Son, with the Intention of those Powers to choose a Successor to the Dominions of *Tuscany* for the Time to come, will be the Effect of that Concern which they have shewn for the general Tranquillity of *Europe*; and that, as they have Reason to be content therewith, 'tis not necessary for the Sake of perfecting so wholesome a Work,

a Work, to alter, without any Reason for it, the Condition of a Free-State, by the Disposal whereof, after the Manner concerted, the Sovereign of it will be as much offended, as the Subjects aggravated.

To this Memorial is annex'd the following Translation of Part of a Letter from the Count de Sinzendorf to the Electress Palatine, written from *Francfort* by the Emperor's Order.

His Imperial Majesty is perswaded the Great Duke will not make nor suffer any Disposition to be made of his Dominions in Favour of the Enemies of his said Majesty, and of the House of *Austria*, nor contrary to his Majesty's Mind; but that, on the other Hand, he will find out Ways and Means to reconcile the Interests of the Family of *Tuscany* with those of the House of *Austria*, both now and hereafter. Upon which Condition, his Imperial Majesty will consent to give to the Electress Palatine the Investiture of the Fiefs hitherto granted, under different Titles, to the Family of *Medicis*.

The Answer of the *Germans* to this Memorial is contain'd in the following Piece.

An Abstract of the Answer to the Memorial drawn up at Florence, to prove the absolute Freedom, and entire Independence of Tuscany, &c.

THE Author of the Memorial lays it down as a Point not to be disputed, That the Republic of Florence has been intirely Independent of the Empire, ever since it had a Being, and that it has always been govern'd by its own Laws, and by its own Magistrates, who were at first call'd Consuls, then Elders, and lastly Prigs, who deriv'd all their Authority from the People that chose them, without being confirm'd by any other Power. On the contrary, 'tis notorious, that the City and Territory of Florence made a Part of the Kingdom of Italy, and that when the German Emperors became Masters of that Kingdom, *Tuscany*, and the City of Florence in particular, was as much subject to them as the rest of Italy: That it continu'd under the Dominion of Dukes or Marquesses of *Tuscany*, who were the Emperor's Feudatories; and that from the Time of *Rodolphus I*, tho' it was govern'd by its own Magistrates, as the Cities of the Empire are at this Day, yet it was always acknowledg'd the Sovereignty of the Emperors, 'till the Time of *Maximilian I*,

lian I. who for a round Sum of Money confirm'd its Privileges. All this is prov'd by the Testimonies of Authors who liv'd in that Age, mostly *Florentines* themselves; and by authentick Titles, some of which are preserv'd in the Archives of the Empire, which are not so unprovided with Proofs as the Author of the Memorial would fain have it believ'd. We shall have Occasion to mention some of these Titles hereafter. There we shall see the Statutes of the People of *Florence* confirm'd by the Emperors, and its Priors stil'd Vicars of the Empire. We shall see the Deputies from the City of *Florence* paying Homage to the Emperors, and receiving from them the Investiture of the Domain and Royal Rights of this Republick. What becomes then of that lawful Possession of an entire and absolute Independency for many Ages, on which the Author founds the Sovereignty of the State of *Florence*? He endeavours to prove it by the Testimonies of a great Number of Civilians, who, he thinks, have ascrib'd an absolute Freedom to the *Florentines* in their Writings. One need only look into the Tables of Law-Books, for such Sort of Proofs; and if it were thought agreeable to the Subject, twice as many might be produc'd. But what signify *Paul de Castro*, the Abbot of *Palermo*, *Baldus*, and the whole School of Interpreters, in a Question of History and Publick Right, against authentick Acts, executed between the Emperors and the Republick of *Florence*? The Author of the Memorial had been recommending to his Readers the Discourse of *M. Borghini*; but he was not aware that in the same Passage the Author shews how little such Scraps of the Lawyers ought to be depended on. Indeed it would be easy, were it worth the while, to take all those Proofs to Pieces, and expose the Weakness of each of them. Some of them wrote at a Time when the Faction of the *Guelphs* was uppermost, and others copy'd after them without any Judgment, as will presently appear to any one that reads what they write. Some found their Reasoning upon Traditions notoriously false, and yet for all this, few of them say what the Author of the Memorial puts into their Mouths. They talk of a Sort of Freedom which the *Germanians* don't dispute with the *Florentines*. They had undoubtedly Jurisdiction as well as other Imperial Cities; but it must not therefore be inferr'd, that they had Sovereignty. How many States are there in *Germany*, from whose Tribunals no Appeals can lie to those of the Empire, which nevertheless do not pretend that the Enjoy-

ment

ment of this Privilege makes them altogether independent on the Empire?

The Author of the Memorial proceeds to prove, that the said Sovereignty was secured to the States of Florence in the famous Revolution in 1530; for this End he asserts, That the Emperor Charles V, was not concern'd in the Settlement of the Principality, any otherwise than, first as an Ally of the Pope, then as Mediator between the Family of Medicis and the Republick, and lastly, as an Arbitrator chosen by the same Parties.

For a Proof of the first, the Memorialist says, The Emperor did not declare himself to be an Enemy of the Florentines, any otherwise than as the Pope's Second, as it were, by Virtue of the Article of the Treaty made with the Pope at Barcelona, on the 29th of June, 1529. He raves bitterly against the Germans for making no Mention of this Article; but we shall see by and by, that it would have signify'd nothing to the Point in Question. The Emperor had his own Reasons for making War on the Florentines, independently on the Interests of the Family of Medicis. He had the same Claims upon the City as his Predecessors, or even Maximilian his Grandfather, had by the very Concession of the Florentines. They made a League with the French against the Emperor, and since they were not included in the Peace of Cambray, the Emperor had the more Right to punish them, because the Emperor Maximilian only pardon'd them, at the Intercession of Lewis XII. King of France, upon Condition that they should never depart from their Allegiance due to the Empire, as appears by an Article of the Treaty at Blois, made the 22d of September in 1504.

The Emperor himself declares his Reasons for it in his Sentence, and adds, That he had commanded his Troops to besiege the City, in order to reduce them to their Duty towards the Holy Empire.

If one does but read Varchi, whom the Memorialist himself cries up for one of the best Pens which has wrote of Florence, one would wonder how the Author could venture to say, That the Emperor appear'd in this Instance, as the Pope's Second, and Ally.

'Tis easily supposed, That the Author of the Memorial will be as hard put to it to prove, that the Emperor only appear'd as Mediator, by saying, That after a long Siege, the Preliminary Articles of the Treaty of Peace were regulated by the Intervention of Don Bernard de Gonzague, General of the Imperial Armies, between the Commissa-

ries of the Republick of *Florence*, and *Bartholomew Valori*, the Pope's Commissary-General, &c.

It must be first of all observ'd, That the Author, even by forming the Proposition, craftily endeavours to confound his Readers. *Don Fernand de Gonzague* was not Mediator, but one of the principal Parties concern'd in the Treaty, and the Pope's Commissary only appear'd in it as a Second. One need but read the Beginning of the Capitulation, to be convinc'd of it. 'Tis therefore upon a Principle of this Foundation that the Author proceeds to argue, when he says, That 'tis an invincible Proof of the uninterrupted Liberty of *Florence*; because, when the Republick treated with *Charles V.* they engag'd him to act as Mediator, an Office which would not have been suitable for him, if he had any Jurisdiction.

He lays his chief Stress upon that Clause in the first Article, by which the *Florentines* stipulated, for the Preservation of their Liberty. He concludes from thence, that the Emperor could have no Power in this Affair, but what the People were pleas'd to confer upon him. As to this Clause therefore, 'tis very probable that the *Florentines*, who had then a popular Government, had no other View, than to keep themselves from Subjection to that of a Prince; so that the Meaning of it is, that they should like any Form of Government which the Emperor would give to the State, provided it was a Sort of Republick. In short, the Government which the Emperor establish'd by his Sentence, favour'd very much of an *Aristocracy*, and the Standard-Bearer *Buondelmonti*, thanked him for having preserv'd the State in its Liberty. If on the contrary, the *Florentines* intended by those Words a Sort of Sovereignty, 'tis proper to observe, that the Emperor's General only sign'd the Capitulation, on Condition that the Emperor would ratify it. But it appears plainly, by the Emperor's Sentence, and by *Varchi's* Recital, that he had not a mind to declare the Republick a Sovereign State.

But now let us see what is said about this Agreement in the Emperor's Deed, which was publicly read at *Florence*, and receiv'd by the Magistrates with great Thanks. The Emperor therein says, That the City having been oblig'd to surrender, he had a Right, after depriving it of all those Privileges which it had receiv'd from his Predecessors, to dispose both of the City and Territory according to his good Pleasure, as much as if it had been an Estate of Inheritance devolv'd to the Empire; but that, upon the Intercession of the Pope, and by Advice of the States of the Empire, he had been pleas'd to pardon

pardon it, and to confirm it in all its Privileges, Rights, Exemptions, Liberties, &c. obtained of the Roman Kings or Emperors. One might know in Part what those Privileges were, by only reading the Agreement made with the Emperor Charles IV. and the Investiture of Rupert King of the Romans.

Now surely that was not the Language of a Mediator, but of a Prince who spoke as Lord and Master. The Emperor talk'd in the same Style, when he proceeded to regulate the Government of Florence. Yet our Author will needs have it, that he only undertook the Office of Mediator, as chosen by the Family of Medicis, and by the Republick of Florence; and that the said Decree was only a Sentence of Arbitration. Indeed, he lays hold on a Passage in that Constitution, where it treats of a Convention; to make the Emperor say, *That he acted by Virtue of a Power which was given him by a Convention of the Parties concern'd.* But how could the Author lay any Stress upon a Passage, which, had it been quoted entire, would have sufficiently confuted all his Sophistry? The Emperor only spoke of the Convention between his General and the Florentines, in Subserviency to his Imperial Authority; but takes no Notice at all of any Arbitration consented to between the Family of Medicis and the Republick of Florence; which our Author has merely invented to support his Hypothesis.

As another Proof that the Emperor only acted as an Arbitrator, that Author says, *That the then reigning Family was enter'd into the Possession of the Principality, by the Regulation of the XIII Reformers of the State, immediately after the Agreement, and some Months before the Sentence of Charles the Fifth.* Because he quotes Varchi, we shall from the same Author prove the contrary. The Decree of Charles V. was sign'd at Augsburg, October 21, 1530. In consequence thereof, Alexander was put into possession of the Principality of Florence by the Emperor's Ministry, July 5, 1531, which was the very Day after he enter'd into that City. And the XIII Reformers of the State, who, according to the Memorialist, put the Duke into Possession of the Principality, were not created 'till 1537.

Every one is at Liberty to judge from what has been just now observ'd, whether it became the Author of the Memorial, to tax the German Lawyers with invincible Ignorance, for asserting the Share which the Emperor had in this Establishment.

He also pleases himself with this other Remark, viz. That if the Emperor had been disposed to acquire, or had thought himself oblig'd to recover any Rights to the Domain of Florence, then was his Time to have done it, either by exacting an Oath of Fidelity from the new Prince and the Florentines, or by requiring Homage, or by taking an Investiture, or lastly, by declaring, that the Regulation which he granted, was purely the Effect of the Imperial Jurisdiction over the said Domain. The Emperor declared the latter plain enough; and if (contented with having given that Mark of the Superiority of the Empire over the said State) he did not require any harsher Condition, as he protested he might have done, the Author ought rather to commend the Candour and Moderation which he observ'd in this Instance, both towards the Pope, and the City of Florence.

But the Author, as if he had sufficiently demonstrated the Truth of what he had been advancing, and fully confuted the German Authors of false Reasoning, proceeds thus, *If the Titles of Ally, Mediator, and Arbitrator, gave any Superiority over Florence, the Holy See had as much Reason to challenge it as the Empire, because Clement IV. and Benedict XI. restor'd Peace to the Republick by their Mediation.* But it has been sufficiently prov'd, that Charles V. acted as a Sovereign, and not as a Mediator; nor to insist upon the wide Difference there is between what the Legate of Benedict XI. undertook without any Success, and what was done by that Emperor. But certainly when the Author alledg'd the Example of Clement IV. he was not aware that he should put his Reader in Mind of some Circumstances very contrary to his System. Clement IV. and Boniface VIII. by taking Care of the Affairs of Tuscany, gave a more remarkable Testimony of the Sovereignty of the Empire over that Province, than all the Quotations which the Author has made from Lawyers to prove the contrary. Clement IV. in the Bull of 1267, whereby he declares Charles of Anjou King of Sicily, Conservator of the Peace in Tuscany for three Years, does it in Quality of Vicar of the Empire, which he pretended was at that Time vacant, and the Pope only conferr'd that Trust on him provisionally, till the Disputes betwixt Alphonfus and Richard were ended, or till the Empire should be provided with another Head, approv'd of by the Apostolick See. So when King Charles was oblig'd in 1278 to restore Tuscany to Rodolphus I. Boniface VIII. did not recognize Albert II. King of the Romans, and acting as if the Empire had been vacant, he created in 1301, Charles

Charles Count of Anjou, King Philip's Son, Conservator of the Peace in Tuscany; but he did it likewise as Vicar of the Empire, a Title which, at that Time of Day, the Popes pretended to belong to them.

The Author of the Memorial pretends, That *Alexander's* refusing to hold the Dutchy of *Florence* in Fee of the Empire, is another Proof of its entire Independency. But one need only compare *Varchi* with this Passage of our Author, to see how ready he is to give an advantageous Turn to Things which do not make for his Party. The Exiles of *Florence*, and other Malecontent Lords of the New Government, had accus'd the Duke to the Emperor as his Superior: They desir'd he would punish him for certain Crimes which they laid to his Charge, and insisted that the Emperor would please to abolish their then Form of Government, and grant their Country another. The Duke too, in his last Reply, does not deny, that this was in the Emperor's Power, and only endeavours to prove, that his Enemies made this Demand, with no other View than to give fresh Disturbance to the Peace of *Tuscany*. But when the Author adds, That *Alexander* fearing his Refusal would engage the Emperor to grant the Exiles what they demanded, made his Escape to *Florence*, in order to put himself in a better Posture of Defence, it was not expected to see *Varchi* quoted again for an Authority, because that Historian says the very Reverse. The Duke not only stay'd at *Naples* after his Refusal, but the Emperor confirm'd the Sentence which he had given before in his Favour, and promis'd him his Daughter in Marriage on the 29th of *February*. The Emperor's not insisting longer upon his Demand, is no Argument that he was convinc'd he had no Right over *Florence*; because he had other Reasons to be kind to his Son-in-Law, for whom he had moreover a very great Value: And *Varchi* tells us of another Circumstance, which shews that the Duke set aside the Demand not by Law, but by quite another Method.

Tho' *Alexander* did not write himself the Emperor's Feudatary, yet he acknowledg'd him for his Superior. There have been always under the Sovereignty of the Empire, Cities, Counties, and Principalities, which were not Fiefs, and yet did not plead Independency. And it was by Virtue of this Subordination, that when the Emperor came to *Florence*, on the 26th of *April* in that very Year, the Duke presented him the Keys of the City, and the Emperor accepted them; a Ceremony which is never

practis'd betwixt one Sovereign and another. When the Emperor *Charles IV.* went to *Florence* in 1378, the King, tho' he had very great Obligations to that Prince, was so jealous of the Marks of his Sovereignty, that he would not suffer so much as a white Horse to be presented to the Emperor. 'Tis well known also what Precautions the Kings of *France* and *England* took, when *Sigismohd*, King of the *Romans*, enter'd their Kingdoms, lest any Thing should pass in the Ceremony, which might look like a Subordination of their Crowns to the *Roman Empire*.

The Author pretends, that after *Alexander's* Death, *Cosmo* was freely elected by the Senate. But in the Decree itself, the Senate protested, That upon this Occasion, they acted only in Conformity to the Emperor's Will and Pleasure. The new Prince undertook nothing without the Advice of the Imperial Ministers, and caus'd himself to be confirm'd in his Dignity by the Count de *Cisuentes*, the Emperor's Embassador. The latter says expressly, *That the New Duke held his Dominions by the Grace of his Imperial Majesty*, and the Emperor repeated this Confirmation by an Act dated at *Mongone* the 30th of *September*, 1537. The Memorialist, instead of bringing Proofs of equal Validity, contents himself with producing this Inscription on the Pedestal of *Cosmo's* Statue, *PLENIS LIBERISQUE SENATORUM VOTIS REPUBLICÆ FLORENTINÆ DUX RENUNCIATUR*, i. e. He is proclaim'd Duke of the Republick of *Florence* by the full and free Votes of the Senators. But Eulogies of this Sort are not to be admitted as Proofs in a Controversy of Law. *Henry IV.* King of *France*, is call'd Emperor in the Inscription on the Pedestal of his Equestrian Statue upon the *Pont Neuf* of *Paris*; but surely no *Frenchman* will offer to argue from thence, that the Title of Emperor is due to the Kings of *France*. The Author was not willing to quit this Point, without confirming it by Quotations from *Rome Lawyers*. He also adds the Authority of *Plus V.* by quoting some Words out of the Bull, whereby the said Pope pretended to create *Cosmo* Great Duke of *Tuscany*, and makes loud Proclamation of the Answer which the said Pope gave to the Emperor's Ministers, viz. That the City of *Florence* had always maintain'd its Liberty: That what had been done with it, was done by its own Citizens, who had the Power as Freemen to dispose both of themselves and their City; and that in the War of 1530, *Charles V.* did nothing but assist one of the Parties, viz. the Exiles, and that

that thereby he had not acquir'd any Superiority over Florence. Then, to give this Answer the more Weight, he appeals to the Sanctity of that Pope, adding these Romantick Expressions. *That it was Love of Truth alone which engag'd him not only to do this Justice to the Great Duke, but also to put himself in a Condition of maintaining it by the Power which he held from God, against the strongest Opposition of the Emperor Maximilian.* Here the Emperor Maximilian, a pious, wise, and moderate Prince, if ever there was one in the World, is brought upon the Stage, as fighting against God himself; and while he is only maintaining the Rights of the Crown, a Saint must be rais'd up to resist him. But surely the Author forgets, that even those who allow the Popes to be infallible in Matters of Religion, do not always allow them the same Infallibility in Politicks and History: And again, 'tis very well known, that St. Pius was not able, in the Sequel, to maintain what he had advanc'd in the Beginning.

The Author was quite out in his Politicks, to refer himself to the Authority of that Holy Pontiff; for if he offers to appeal to the Testimony of a Pope, to prove that the Empire had never any Right over the City of Florence, we will oppose him with the Authority of Clement VI. Boniface VIII. and other Popes, who have acknowledg'd the Sovereignty of the Empire over Tuscany.

Thus the Author fancies to have sufficiently prov'd, that before the Medici were in Possession of the Sovereignty, the City of Florence was entirely Mistress of her Territories without any Subordination to the Emperor, and that since the Establishment of the Princes aforesaid, they have enjoy'd the same Independency. He is so positive in this Article, that he will not be undeceiv'd, unless we can produce against him Acts of Investiture, Oaths of Fidelity, Homages paid, and other publick Acts of the like Nature, which may undeniably prove a Subjection to the Emperor.

Notwithstanding those who assert the Rights of the Imperial Crown, are not oblig'd to alledge those Proofs, and ought only to stand on the Defensive against the Author of the Memorial, we shall, however, produce two Acts, or Titles, which, 'tis hoped, will either satisfy or silence this Author: Let us examine, in the first Place, what was transacted with Charles IV. at Pisa, in the Year 1355, a Time, in which that Prince was very far from being in a Condition to offer any Violence to the Florentines. The Embassadors of Florence, Volterra, Miniati Arezzo, and Pistoia, paid

paid their Homage to that Prince at *Pisa*; and in the Agreement that was made at the same Time, it was stipulated for 'the Republick, That that Prince should abolish and make void the Sentences issu'd by his Predecessor *Henry VII.* against the City of *Florence*, and, at the same Time, confirm her Laws and Privileges; that the Priors of Arts, and the Ensign of Justice (the chief of the Magistrates) should be his Vicars or Lieutenants; that he should not use any Force, if any one accus'd the *Florentines*, but that he would administer Justice according to Right and Equity. The *Florentines* promis'd, on their Part, to pay to that Prince, in Lieu of the Rights and Pretensions of his Predecessors to the Territories of *Florence*, 100000 Florins of Gold, and, for the future, 4000 Florins of Gold per Annum. The *Florentines* accompany'd him in his Journey to *Rome* with 200 Horse, and, upon his Return to *Pisa*, *Antony Adimari*, and *John de Medicis*, swore Fidelity, in the Name of that Republick, to that Prince as Emperor, and he confirm'd unto them their Privileges by an Act corroborated with a Bull or Golden Seal.

In the Alliance concluded by the *Florentines* with *Rupert*, King of the *Romans*, they desire him to grant them the Privileges they had requested of him only during his Life, and they engage to pay him, by Way of Acknowledgment of his Sovereignty, a certain Sum of Money, to be agreed upon between him and their Deputies. They obtain'd accordingly that Privilege: The King of the *Romans* confirm'd unto them, not only the Possession of the Lands they enjoy'd, but likewise the Regal Rights which they exercis'd therein, and gave the Investiture to *Bonacurtius de Pitti*, Deputy of the *Florentines*, but not without reserving a Subordination to the Emperor; for he declares the said Priors, and the *Gonfalonier*, or Standard-bearer, Vicars of the Emperor.

It appears thereby, that till this Power was recall'd by his Successors, to whom the Faculty of revoking the same was expressly reserv'd, since the *Florentines* had demanded them only during his Life, and that, on the other Hand, the same Privileges were confirm'd by *Maximilian* and *Charles V.* It appears, I say, that the Republick of *Florence* has enjoy'd her Dominion and Regal Rights only by Virtue of these Concessions; and indeed, it could not be otherwise, since the Towns conquer'd by the *Florentines*, were subject to the Emperor as well as that of *Florence*, and tho' the *Florentines* had depriv'd them of their Liberty, yet they could not prejudice the Rights of the Sovereignty.

verignty of the Emperor, with whom they were not engag'd in a War.

Here is an Investiture, there are Homages paid, Rights of Sovereignty acknowledg'd, with several other Acts which undeniably prove a Subjection. It is therefore upon very good Foundations, that the Emperor insists on his Rights on the State of *Florence*, seeing the *Florentine* Authors, and in particular the Author of the Memorial agree, That the Relation the State of *Florence* had with the Emperor, during the Time of their Republick, has not been alter'd by the Alteration of that Constitution into a Principality.

The only Way for this Gentleman to prove the Sovereignty of that State, is to shew, that the State of *Florence* has freed itself of that Subordination, by Means as legal and lawful as those whereby the said Subordination was establish'd; but to prove this, the Author must produce other Authorities than some Passages out of *Civilians*, *Inscriptions* on Statues, *Subtilties*, or loose, general and equivocal Expressions. The Dukes of *Lorrain* did formerly hold that Dutchy from the Empire; but the Emperor *Charles V.* declar'd those Princes absolute Sovereigns thereof, by a Convention made in the Year 1542. The *Helvetic* Body obtain'd in the Treaty of *Westphalia*, that their Exemption from the Imperial Chamber should be inserted in the Articles of Peace; and the States-General, after having made their Peace with the King of *Spain*, obtain'd likewise the Confirmation, Security, and Acknowledgment of their Liberty from the Emperor *Ferdinand*. The Author of the Memorial produces nothing like these Titles in Favour of *Florence*, but contents himself with alledging a Prescription; but at the same Time that he made so great a Shew of a Possession of several Centuries, 'tis highly probably he did not think of the Titles we have mention'd, nor of the Series of the bright and eminent Instances whereby the Emperors have asserted their Superiority over that State, which therefore is not in the same Case as those Nations, who, taking Advantage of the Weakness of the *Roman* Empire, have founded new Sovereignties over its Ruins, whose Sovereigns have been acknowledg'd for lawful Possessors thereof by Treaties of Peace and Alliances, or other Acts of the like Nature. It may be prov'd, on the other Hand, that Part of those Provinces had been deserted or abandon'd by the *Romans*, and therefore the Quotation out of *Grotius* signifies nothing in this Case. If the Author design'd to make Use of it, he

he might, in the first Place, to have shew'd; That either the Em^{per} has lost its Right upon *Florence* in a War, or has renounc'd the same by a Treaty, or else that the Em^{per} has voluntarily abandon'd and given up his Pretensions on the said State. That Prescription may become a lawful Title, 'tis requisite that one of the Parties be not only in Possession of the Rights claim'd by the said Prescription, but also that the other Party shew no Design or Disposition to recover those Rights. If the Em^{per}ors have suffer'd the Dukes of *Tuscany* to enjoy a free Jurisdiction, the Rights of Peace and War, and other Prerogatives enjoy'd by the States of the Empire, this cannot be alledg'd against them, because those Dukes enjoy'd that by Virtue of the Imperial Concessions: But when the Court of *Tuscany* has gone about to regulate their Succession, and has exceeded the Bounds of the Power given them by the Act of *Charles V.* to whom the House of *Medicis* owe their Elevation, his Imperial Majesty has express'd a due Resentment thereof, and 'tis in vain, that the Author of the Memorial pretends to prove the contrary by a Note or Letter from Count *Zinzendorf*.

The Author, who, in the Beginning of his Memorial, protested to have no other View, than to undeceive the Confederated Powers, who had been surpriz'd by an erroneous Supposition in that Case, fancies to have so well succeeded therein, that he does not scruple to say, That nothing can be more unjust and abominable, than to go about to declare the State of *Florence* a Fief of the Empire; but the Em^{per}or is so much the more oblig'd to take Care of his Rights, because they alledge, the Goodness and Indulgence of *Charles V.* for the House of *Medicis* to dispute and call in Question those very Rights. And as that Quality of a Fief of the Empire is accepted in the Quadruple Alliance by the Prince who is to have the Succession of *Tuscany*, the Author has no Reason to complain, seeing he shall neither lose his Rank, Title, or Authority in the Government. The People of *Florence* are no Losers thereby, and it appears, the Author is little acquainted with the Condition of the Imperial Fiefs, when he complains, that there is a Design to oppress the Liberty of that Country. Are the Princes of *Italy*, and the Electors of the Empire, more constrain'd in the Government of their States, or less consider'd in the Affairs of *Europe*, whenever they are pleas'd to concern themselves therein, because they are Feudatories of the Empire?

The second Part of the Memorial is design'd to criticize upon some Arguments used by the *German Writers*, to prove the Rights of the Empire upon *Florence*; but the Author chuses only the weakest Allegations, as if they were the strongest Proofs alledg'd by those Writers. He attacks in particular *Conringius*; but as that Author was not furnish'd with all the Titles and Documents that have been publish'd since, we shall not lose our Time in examining and confuting those Criticisms. On the other Hand, the Imperial Court has so many undeniable Evidences of their Rights, that it is easy for them to convince the Powers; engag'd in the Quadruple Alliance, of the Equity of their Pretensions, without having previously consulted the Court of *Tuscany*, which ought to have been done, if we believe the Author of their Memorial.

The other Affairs of *Italy* being of small Importance, we proceed to other Countries; and first of

S W I T Z E R L A N D.

IN February last, the King of Great-Britain having been pleas'd to recall Mr. Manning, his Minister in Switzerland, that Gentleman took his Leave of the *Helvetic Body* by the following Memorial.

Magnificent and Potent Lords,

YOU will perceive by the Letter from the King my Master, which I have the Honour to transmit to you with these Presents, that his Majesty has been pleas'd to recal me home, after having compleated the Intentions of his Majesty in sending me hither, to reside on his Part with your Illustrious and Potent Republick.

'Tis a great Satisfaction to me, my Lords, to find that there is no Disgust taken at my Conduct; and that the saving all superfluous Expences, now there is a General Peace throughout *Europe*, is the only Motive of my Recall.

At the same Time that I impart this Letter to you from his Majesty, I am charm'd that I can assure you in his Name, that he will have the Advancement of your Interests as much at Heart, as if his Minister was present with you, and that he will never forget the obliging Proofs

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you

you have given him of your Friendship, ever since his Accession to the Throne, on which Providence has plac'd him.

As for myself, I cannot take Leave of the *Laudable Helvetick* Body, without a publick Acknowledgement of all the Marks of Esteem which I have receiv'd upon various Occasions, during the many Years which I have had the Honour to reside with you on the Part of his Majesty. And this is an Epocha so remarkable, and so advantageous to his Majesty's Glory, that nothing can possibly add to the Pleasure it gives me; for it will be found perhaps in your Records, that ever since the Crown of *Great Britain* wisely thought fit to cultivate the Friendship of the *Illustrious Cantons*, by sending its Ministers among them, I can boast of being the first Minister who was ever receiv'd and acknowledg'd as such, by all the Branches of the *Helvetick League*.

I own, Magnificent and Potent Lords, that I find my Heart the more affected by this Event so glorious to my Ministry, because it serves to convince the World of the high Esteem, and singular Veneration, which you have for his Majesty, and how much you admire those truly Royal Qualities, and Heroick Virtues, which centre in his Person. For indeed, a Character, such as he bears, of *Illustrious, Merciful, Wise, Magnanimous, Happy Prince*, ever constant, never ruffled, respected and courted by all the Powers of Christendom, belov'd and honour'd by his Subjects, dreaded by his Enemies, attached to his Friends, and capable to protect them; a Prince, who sees his Happiness secur'd by a numerous Royal Race descended from his Loins, and Heirs of his Virtues as well as of his Throne; a Character, I say, so strong, so rare, so worthy of a King, and so full of true Grandeur, does really deserve, not only your Admiration, but that of the whole Universe.

What remains now for me, but to pray to God to reunite all the different Members of your potent Body more than ever; that while you are cemented and fortify'd by a perfect Alliance at Home, you may have nothing to fear from Abroad; that the noble Sciences, the Arts of Government, and Wisdom, may flourish more and more among you, as it did among the *Greeks* of old, whom perhaps you have chose for your Model; but that your State may be far more durable, and your Prosperity more constant, I could wish to see it erected upon the solid Foundation of a sincere Peace, and brotherly Friendship
among

among your selves; a Bulwark more sure, and more convenient for your Preservation, than all your Passes, and all your Mountains, notwithstanding those difficult, if not inaccessible Ramparts, with which Nature herself has encompass'd you. These are the ardent Vows which I do now, and shall always put up for you, as well absent as present, being with all Sincerity, and all possible Regard,

Magnificent and Potent Lords,

Your most Affectionate Servant,

MANNING.

We have no more to insert from this Country, but only the following Letter from his Britannick Majesty.

A LETTER from the King of Great Britain, to the Protestant Cantons of Swisserland.

GEORGE, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, &c. To the Illustrious and Magnificent Lords, the Burgo-Masters, Avoyers, Landmans, and Counsellors of the Protestant Cantons of Swisserland, viz. Zurich, Berne, Glaris, Basil, Schaffhausen, Appenzel, St. Gall, and Bienne, our most dear Friends, greeting.

As nothing can give us greater Pleasure than to see a firm and constant Union advance as far as possible amongst all those who profess the true Faith, so we could not but be extremely sorry to hear that a certain Paper call'd *Formula Consensus*, which has been receiv'd for several Years in certain Parts of Swisserland, has caus'd Abundance of Confusion and Trouble among the Protestants of Germany, and given Birth to uneasy Scruples in their Minds; which is certainly a very great Hindrance to that strict Union which there ought to be among our Brethren, who, in other Respects, agree together in the Profession of the pure and true Religion.

We therefore (such is the Love we bear you, and the Concern we have in whatsoever affects your Interests) could not refrain from amicably exhorting all of you together, but more especially the Cantons of Zurich and Berne, that you will have so much Regard for the Peace and Tranquillity of the Reformed Church, as to force Nobody to sign the said Formulary, the rather, because such a Proceeding would not be consistent with your usual Moderation in the like Cases; but that, on the contrary, you will check such Persons, who, under Pretence of propagating the Confession of the true Faith, go about to trouble

ble the Peace of the Church by Disputes about Matters too sublime, or obscure, and on which, in the Judgment of very many, eternal Salvation has not much Dependence; a Practice which, if tolerated any longer, may be very prejudicial both to the State and to Religion. We need not point out to you how useful, how wholesome, and even how necessary this Advice is, especially in the present Juncture of Affairs. Your great Piety, and your Wisdom, will convince you of it fully. 'Tis enough to say, that by conforming to it, you will act both for your Interest, and for the Interest of Protestants in general: And we persuade our selves, that you will the more willingly adhere to it, because thereby you will do what will be extremely agreeable to us, and at the same Time contribute effectually to the Peace and Security of the Reformed Churches. For the rest, we recommend you heartily, both you and all that belong to you, to the Protection of Almighty God.

St. James's, April 10, 1722, in the 8th of our Reign.

Your good Friend,

GEORGE R.

Underneath,

Carteret.

Miscellaneous Occurrences.

UNDER this Head we shall now, and in our future Registers, give a Collection of such Occurrences, which we shall receive from foreign Countries, as for their Uncommonness deserve to be mention'd; and are such as may contribute either to the Diversion or Instruction of the Reader. The following Relation comes from *Venice*, and ought to inspire every Reader with an Abhorrence of the like Unchristian Barbarities.

THE Count *de la Torre* being marry'd to a Lady of a considerable Family, and of unsuspected Virtue during the Time she was his Wife; yet would he constantly keep lewd Women in his House, and often bring them into the Countess's own Apartments, committing the rudest Indecencies before her Face: By a Course of such Marriage Violations, the Countess found herself under a Necessity of leaving her Husband, and for some Months liv'd retir'd

retir'd at one of their Country Seats named *Novale* in the *Venetian Territories*: Among the Ladies whom the Count entertain'd, was one of Quality, of the Family of *Strasoldy*, and who was his Cousin; and she proving with Child by him, her elder Brother pursu'd the Count, demanding Satisfaction, or Reparation of his Sister's Honour by marrying her: The Count gave his Consent to the latter, provided it could be effected, his own Lady being living; at length the Count *de la Torre*, the young Lady, her Brother, and his Mother, resolv'd upon dispatching the Countess; and engaging into their Service a Woman to be the wicked Instrument of their Measures, sent her with a Letter to the Countess *de la Torre*, and upon delivering it she shot her with a Pistol, which not immediately killing her, the young Count *de Strasoldy*, who had follow'd the Woman softly up the back Stairs, gave the expiring Countess thirty-three Stabs with his Poniard, and dispatch'd her; that Number of Wounds appear'd on her Corpse after it was carry'd to *Venice* in order to be bury'd.

As soon as the Fact was committed, the Murderers fled to a strong Place at *Fana*, a Lordship not far from *Gradisca*, in the Imperial Territories, and there fortify'd themselves against the Grand Bailiff of the Country the Count *de Lanthiri*; who, upon Information of these Particulars, gave Orders for apprehending the Criminals, and finding they intended a Resistance, oblig'd him to require Men from the Baron *de Fina*, Deputy-Governor of *Gradisca*: The Malefactors and their Adherents fir'd several Shot upon their Assailants, and held out for 24 Hours; but Cannon being brought against them, they yielded, were clapt in Irons, and convey'd to *Gradisca*: The old Count *de Strasoldy* is yet living at *Venice*, and makes no Kind of Interposition in Behalf of his Lady, from whom he has been several Years parted, by Reason of her former wicked Course of Life, and who is now apprehended with the others. The *Venetians* having formerly given an *Hotel* to be the Residence of the Family of the Counts *de la Torre*, have order'd it to be raz'd even with the Ground, and a Column set up there, in Token of Infamy.

Another tragical Affair happen'd lately at a Wedding at *Modella*. At the Time the Priest demanded of the Bride if she would take the Bridegroom to be her Husband? She answer'd, No, not him, but the Person who stood behind him. — (Rival of the Bridegroom) Immediately the Bridegroom draws his Poniard, and kills the Bride, the
same

same Instant the Rival slabb'd the Bridegroom, and the Father of the young Lady kill'd the Rival; these sad Particulars were all committed in the Church.

The following Account comes from *Montpellier* in *France*.

M. *d'Estache*, formerly a Cornet in *Asfeld's* Dragoons, being 52 Years of Age, got with Child a young Gentlewoman of 17 Years of Age, whose Name is *S. Cheron*, Daughter of a late Captain of Foot in the Regiment of *Rochefort*, and refus'd to marry her, on Pretence of having been too familiar in his younger Days with her Mother. The abus'd Damsel had two Brothers, Lieutenants of Horse in the Regiment of *Brisac*, who would have compell'd the *Sieur d'Estache* to marry their Sister, to retrieve her Honour, and vindicate their calumniated Mother; but *d'Estache* wounded the eldest in the Face with a Pistol, and shot the youngest with a Gun out of a Window. This injur'd Family has a Sister, who for some Time abandon'd herself to Grief and Rage, but the last of those Passions at length prevailing, prompted her to a Revenge above the Daring of her Sex: This young Gentlewoman being inform'd that her Sister's Ravisher and Brother's Murderer was at *Montpellier*, went thither from *Gignac*, where she liv'd, and arriv'd there on the 5th of *March* in the Evening: She found Means on the 7th to be introduc'd to the guilty Author of her Family's Disgrace, and without any Ceremony shot him dead with a Pistol. Having done the Deed, she wrote the next Day to the Duke Regent, and M. *le Blanc*, Secretary at War, owning the Fact, but denying it to be an Offence, and justifying her Innocence by the Provocation, yet at the same Time humbly imploring for Mercy. Her Letters were receiv'd on the 16th in the Morning, and his Royal Highness the Duke Regent immediately dispatch'd an Express to the Lieutenant-Criminal of *Montpellier*, to send the Informations against her to M. *le Blanc*, and not to give Judgment till farther Orders. The Ladies of *Montpellier* one and all declared their Approbation of the Action, and two of them made themselves Prisoners to bear her Company in her Confinement, which was not of long Continuance; for, notwithstanding that she had acted the Heroine's Part, rather than that of the Christian, she soon obtain'd her Pardon.

We are oblig'd to the publick Advices from *Naples* (dated in *September 1721*) for the following Account, which relating to Natural History, deserves a Place in this Collection.

A Fisherman of this City of *Naples* having been lately a Fishing on the Coast near the *Magdalen Bridge*, was unfortunately devour'd by a large Sea-Dog, in Sight of several other Fishermen, who had the good Fortune to make their Escape. These Men having consider'd the Prejudice that Monster would cause to their Fishing, and being resolv'd to revenge the Death of their Companion, caus'd several Iron Instruments to be made, and among others, some large Hooks. Being thus provided, they put to Sea in some pretty strong Barques, and having discover'd that Fish on the 6th of *June* last, threw their Hooks with large Pieces of Horse flesh to cover them; but the Sea-Dog either having no Fancy to that Meat, or fearing the Snare, would not bite; whereupon, the Fishermen threw a Rope into the Sea, with a running Knot, and some other Flesh therein, and ty'd to the Ship both Ends of the Rope. The Fish having greedily devour'd the Meat, advanc'd with such a Force, that his Head got thro' the Knot, and was caught therein; and the Fishermen drawing at the same Time the Ends of the Rope, the Fish made extraordinary Efforts to extricate himself, and in one of them cast himself upon a Shallow, and broke his Neck. That Fish was drawn upon the Shore, and being measur'd, was found twenty *Neapolitan Palms* long. His Mouth was excessive wide, having three Rows of Teeth, in the Form of a Saw, in the Upper Jaw, and but one in the Under. He had on each Side a Fin three Palms long, and one upon the Back longer than the others. His Tail made a Bow six Palms long; and his Belly was fourteen Palms about. It weigh'd 16 *Cantares*, which is about 400 Weight. They open'd his Body the next Day, and found therein a great Quantity of Fish, with Part of the Skull of a Man, two Legs, Part of the Back-Bone, and the Ribs, which were judg'd to be the Members of the unfortunate Fisherman, who had been devour'd some Days before. The Council of Health caus'd that Fish to be burnt before it stank, lest it should have bred an Infection.

Aldrovandi, in his Third Book, gives a long Account of this Kind of Shark, or Dog-Fish: It was, says he, known to the Antients by the Name of *Canis Garcharias*, which he proves by the Authority of *Pliny*, and several other Antients.

Authors. He adds, That he loves human Flesh exceedingly, and that this is one of the chief Reasons why People don't eat the Flesh of this Fish, tho' it be very white, and of good Taste. He tells us further, That the Teeth of this Fish being set in Silver, and hang'd about the Neck of Children instead of a Play-thing, have the Vertue to cure the Tooth-ach, and make their Teeth cut by rubbing them with it. To which we add, that the Brain of that Creature boyl'd in Oyl, and apply'd to a Tooth, will immediately stop the Pain, and so is an infallible Remedy for the Tooth-ach, from what Cause soever it proceeds.

This Fish was none of the biggest of the Kind, seeing it weigh'd only 400 Pounds. *Joanston* (in his Natural History of Fishes, Art. 2.) talks of one being of the middle Size, weighing about 800 Pound, and of another weighing 4000. He adds, that a Man in a compleat Armour was found in the Belly of one of these Monsters.

The following Account contains a Curiosity which will be entertaining to the Reader; it comes from *Petersbourg*, dated in *September, 1721.*

Some of the Geographers, and Astronomers whom his Czarish Majesty sent about two Years ago to survey the *Caspian-Sea*, and to take an exact Observation of the Latitude, &c. of the Coasts, have reported since their Return, That when they went ashore, and were got 150 Leagues to the N. E. they found a great Stone Building above half cover'd with Sand, the Architecture of which was almost like that of the Ruins of ancient *Persopolis*; and that entering it, they found Presses of a black hard Sort of Wood, containing near 3000 Volumes, bound in the Form of large Quarto's, whose Leaves were an Inch thick, and blue, and the Characters white. They intended to have brought this Library along with them, but the superstitious People of the Country oppos'd it, for fear that the Structure, which they look upon as a Sacred Monument, should be prophan'd, by their suffering any thing to be carry'd out of it. Nevertheless, the *Muscovite* Travellers found Means to convey away three Volumes, and brought them to *Petersbourg*, where none being able to decypher the Characters, the Czar caus'd exact Copies of the first Pages of the said Books to be drawn out, and to be sent to the Learned in *France* and *England*. The Opinion of the most knowing Men in the Czar's Dominions was, that the Place where this Structure was discover'd, is that which

which was formerly the Capital of *Cythia*, known in ancient History by the Name of *Iffidon Scythia*, though the Ancients place it at a much greater Distance, viz. in *Scythia extra Imaum*.

The Books are compos'd of very large Sheets of a very thick Paper, supposed to be made of Cotton or the Bark of Trees, laid over with two Varnishes one above the other, one Blue, and the other Black, as appears in some Places that are a little scaled. The Characters seem well shav'd, are not join'd together, and are painted in White. The Lines are written horizontally; but being all of an equal Length, it cannot be determin'd whether they run from Left to Right, after the Manner of the *Europeans* and *Indians*; or from Right to Left, like the *Hebrews* and *Arabs*. Tho' it is not yet known from what Nation those Characters are deriv'd, there is Ground to believe they come from the *Calmucks* and *Moguls* to the Westward of *China*; which is the more probable, because the Country of the *Calmucks*, in the 13th, 14th, and 15th Centuries, was the Centre of two large Empires, under the Successors of *Ginghis Khan* and *Tamerlane*; among which Princes, there were some very learned, whose Works in Astronomy and Geography, are holden in very great Esteem in *Europe*. Beside the Discovery of this Library, which the Czar looks upon as a precious Treasure, the Peasants in the Neighbourhood of the Ruins that enclose it, produced several Statues in Brass, which they found in the Middle of the Woods, in the Burying-Places of the *Calmucks*; and among those which the Czar has repositd in his own Cabinet, is a Roman Lamp, with the Equestrian Statue of a Roman General crown'd with Laurel; two other Figures of Men on Horseback, with Armour like that worn in the West in the 12th and 13th Centuries; several Indian Idols, and among them two of the famous Goddess known in *China* by the Name of *Poussa*, and in *Thibet* by that of *Manippé*. The People of *Tartary*, *China*, *Siam*, and the *Indians*, worship her as the Mother of one of their Prophets, who liv'd 600 Years before *Jesus Christ*; and in *China* is call'd *Foo*, in *Tartary* *Ogouskan*, in *Siam* *Sommona-Kodon*, and in *India* *Bouddha*. The *Siamese*, who pay him the Homage of a Deity, date their publick Writings from the Epocha of his Death; and that Epocha precedes the Christian *Æra* by 345 Years.

We will, for this Time, conclude this Miscellaneous Collection with the following Account from *Tripoli*, dated Sept. 20, 1721.

H h

Yesterday

Yesterday in the Evening we receiv'd Advice by one of the Life-Guard of *Affabian-Bey*, Brother of our Bey, Vice-Bey, and Chief Minister of this State, that seven Persons, some of them *Turks* and others *Moors*, went to the Country Palace of that Vice-Bey, call'd *Akiaban*, where they found him walking in his Garden; and coming up to him, made a Shew as if they would have kiss'd the Hem of his Garment, (the usual Token of Submission to Princes in this Country) but all on a sudden drew their Sabres, and each of them gave him one Wound, so that he dropp'd dead on the Spot: They likewise wounded his eldest Son, kill'd one of his Christian Slaves, and five other of his Domesticks. The Guard ran instantly to the Noise, cut two of the Assassins in Pieces, and took two of them Prisoners; but the other three, among whom was their Ring-leader, found Means to make their Escape. No sooner was this Catastrophe known here, than it caus'd a general Alarm, and every one, Burghers as well as Soldiers, ran to their Arms: A Detachment of Horse was sent out to get Intelligence in the Country, and discover'd at a Distance about 40 Horsemen advancing towards this Place, but they fled as soon as they perceiv'd the Detachment. The two Prisoners were this Morning examin'd, and have confess'd that their Design was to have murder'd the Bey likewise, and then to have rais'd an Insurrection in Favour of the Rebel *Ibrahim Triaski*, who serv'd lately under the famous *Gian-mum Coggia*, and whom they intended to have proclaim'd Bey. But the Bey has taken the necessary Precautions to render this Conspiracy abortive; 300 Men mount the Guard in the Market-Place, and Troops are posted in several other Parts of the City; the Mortars and Cannon of the Castle are all loaded, and pointed against the Town, to bring the Malecontents and Conspirators to Reason, in Case they should attempt to rise in Arms. The two Assassins that were taken have been hang'd this Morning, and their Heads set up on Poles before the Windows of the Castle, as are also the Heads of the other two that were kill'd by the Guards of the murder'd Vice-Bey: Seven other of their Accomplices have been likewise hang'd, and two strangled. This Morning the Consuls of *France*, *Great-Britain*, and *Holland*, went to the Castle to pay their Compliments of Condolence to the Bey on the tragical End of his Brother, as also to desire his Protection, as well for their Persons as for their Houses and Families: He answer'd them, that they had no Reason to be afraid, he having taken effectual Measures to keep all Things quiet.

SCOTLAND.

On the 10th Instant, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met at *Edinburgh*, and chose for their Moderator Mr. *William Mitchell*. His Majesty's Commission to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Loudon* was read, as was likewise his Majesty's most gracious Letter to the Assembly; His Majesty's High Commissioner made a Speech to the Assembly, which was answer'd on their Part by the Moderator; and a Committee was appointed to draw up a dutiful Answer to his Majesty's most gracious Letter, which being reported on the 12th, was unanimously approv'd, with very great Demonstrations of Affection to his Majesty's Person and Government; and having been transmitted by the High Commissioner, to the Right Honourable the Lord *Garteret*, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has been presented to his Majesty, and is as follows:

May it please your Majesty,

THIS new Opportunity we have of meeting in a General Assembly, honour'd with the renew'd Assurances in so ample a Manner, of your Majesty's Royal Favour, lays us under the strongest Ties of Gratitude to our most gracious God, and the most dutiful Sense of your Majesty's great Goodness.

The inviolable Obligations we are under to do our utmost to preserve our holy Religion, would have render'd us inexcusable, if we had neglected any Opportunity in the most difficult Times, to give Proof of our hearty Zeal for the Protestant Interest, the Succession to the Crown of these Dominions in your Majesty's Royal Family, and of our most cordial Affection to your Majesty's Person and Government, whose Interests are so inseparably connected with those of the Reformed Churches; and we hope, from the Assistance of our God, that neither Force and Violence of open Enemies, nor the artful Contrivances of factious and ill-designing Men, shall be able to divert us from those Principles of Loyalty, which, by the Blessing of God, we have hitherto pursu'd.

The Approbation your Majesty is graciously pleas'd to give of our Behaviour on former Occasions, as dutiful and prudent, is an additional Engagement to the Ties, which our Interest and Regard to our Character, bring us under to behave our selves with the greatest Temper and Unanimity we are capable of in this our present Assembly.

We do humbly rely upon your Majesty's most gracious and repeated Assurances of our unalterable Resolution to maintain the establish'd Church of *Scotland*, in the full

Enjoyment of all their Rights and Privileges; and do esteem your Majesty's Royal Favour, and the Succession to the Crown in your Royal Family, as our greatest Security under God.

The Earl of Loudon's known Concern for this Church, in which he follows the Example of his Noble Ancestors, as well as his Zeal for your Majesty's Service, render your Majesty's Choice of him to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly most acceptable to us.

The Care your Majesty hath shew'd in your wife and just Administration ever since your happy Accession to the Crown, for preserving of Peace, and the publick Tranquillity both in Church and State, your Majesty's having so much at Heart the promoting true Religion, and preventing the Growth of Popery, together with your gracious Assurances of your Royal Concern for the Advancement of the same good and glorious Ends, leave us no Ground to doubt, that your Majesty will favourably countenance such Methods as may tend to the preventing the Growth of Popery, the Increase of which we humbly believe is dangerous to the Interests of your Majesty's Government, as well as those of our Holy Religion.

We are firmly resolv'd, thro' the Grace of our God, in order to the promoting those great and good Ends which your Majesty is pleas'd to recommend unto us, to be upon our Guard against the Practices of such as shall endeavour to create unhappy Divisions among us, being fully perswaded that nothing can tend more to the Welfare and Honour of this Church, than Concord and Brotherly Love.

That God may eminently bless your Majesty with all spiritual Blessings in Christ, and long preserve you to reign over a People sensible of their own Happiness, and to be a Support to all the Protestant Churches of Europe; that he may plentifully pour out his Blessings upon their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and their Royal Issue; that when, after a long and prosperous Reign, you shall receive an immortal Crown in Heaven, you may have Successors to the latest Posterity, worthy of your self, and possess'd of your Royal Vertues, to inherit your Crown, is the constant, earnest, and fervent Prayer of,

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects, the Ministers and Ruling Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Sign'd in our Presence, in our Name, and at our Appointment,
Edinb. May 12, 1722. *By William Mitchell, Moderator.*