

THE
Historical Register,

Containing
An impartial RELATION
of all TRANSACTIONS, Foreign
and Domestic.

WITH A
Chronological Diary
OF ALL

the remarkable OCCURRENCES,
viz. Births, Marriages, Deaths, Removals,
Promotions, &c. that happen'd in this
Year.

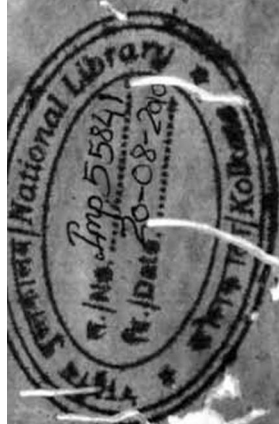
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1739 THE
16 SEP.
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Historical Register.

NUMBER XIII.

FRANCE.



ON the 9th of December the Prince de Cellamare, Ambassador of Spain, at the Court of the most Christian King, was put under a Guard at his own House at Paris, and all his Papers seiz'd, seal'd up, and sent to the Louvre: The next Day that Ambassador writ the following circular Letter to all the foreign Ministers residing at the Court of France.

SIR,

THE Common Interest, in which that of all Princes is equally concern'd, at a Time when the venerable and sacred Character of the Embassy of a Great and Powerful Monarch is violated in my Person, obliges me to inform you, (tho' tis already known to all Paris) that the Government here has intercepted and open'd a Packet of Letters that I had sent to the King my Master, directed to Cardinal Alberoni; that I am now confin'd to my House, as well as the Secretary of the Embassy, and guarded by a Detachment of the most Christian King's Household Troops; and that all my Papers, as well publick as Secret, are seiz'd and seal'd up. I have not given the least Occasion for this Violence, it being my Duty to send Advice to my Sovereign of every Thing that may contribute in this critical Juncture to his Service, and to the needful Defence of his Dominions. It is therefore

that the Rights of Nations are by this Action grievously infring'd and violated in several Respects; and that such a Violation, which is without Example, cries for, and requires all Princes to demand Satisfaction and just Reparation for so great an Infraction. I therefore desire you to send an Account of it speedily to your Court, to the End so strange, so unjust, and so scandalous an Example may not receive Authority and Countenance in the World by pernicious Silence.

Am. 30.

The Abbot *du Bois*, Secretary of State for foreign Affairs, who, together with the *Sieur le Blanc*, Secretary at War, was present at the securing the Person and Papers of the Ambassador, writ likewise a circular Letter to the several foreign Ministers at the French Court, and particularly to the Earl of *Stair*, his *Britannick Majesty's* Ambassador there, a Copy whereof follows.

My Lord,

Paris, Decemb. 10.

AS what pass'd Yesterday with relation to the Prince *de Cellamare*, will doubtless excite the publick Attention, and as the King is desirous to make known the Motives of his Resolutions when they may concern Sovereign Powers; his Majesty has commanded me to acquaint your Excellency, that it was not till after there were found, by an unexpected Accident, in a Packet which the Prince *de Cellamare* had entrusted to a Person who was going to Spain, Proofs under that Ambassador's own Hand, of his Abuse of the Characters with which he is vested, in inciting the King's Subjects to a Revolt, and the Plan of the Conspiracy which he had form'd, to destroy the Government and Tranquillity of the whole Kingdom, that his Majesty was induc'd to take the Resolution to put him under the Guard of one of the Gentlemen in ordinary of his Household and to oblige him to seal up with his own Seal, jointly with that of his Royal Highness the Regent, the Papers of his Embassy, to prevent their being convey'd out of the Way. This is what his Majesty had order'd me to signify to your Excellency, That you may inform the King your Master of it, till what arises from this important Discovery be set forth in its full Light. I can, at the same Time assure your Excellency, that the indispensable Necessity of taking Care on this Occasion of the Tranquillity of the People, was the only Motive that could

could have wrought upon his Majesty to secure himself, by the Measures he has taken, against the dangerous Practices of the Prince de Cellamare; and that it was not without great Repugnance he prevail'd with himself to take this Resolution, though it be accompany'd with all the Regard and all the Marks of Consideration possible for the Embassador of a Prince, whose Friendship will be ever dear to him, and who is incapable of entering into such pernicious Designs. I beg your Excellency to believe that I am entirely, my Lord, your Excellency's, &c.

DU BOIS.

About the same Time the two following Letters from the Prince de Cellamare to Cardinal Alberoni, were Printed at the Royal Printing House at Paris, in French and Italian, and introduc'd as follows.

THAT the Publick may be inform'd upon what Foundation his Majesty resolv'd the 9th Instant to send back the Prince de Cellamare, Embassador of the King of Spain, and to appoint one of the Gentlemen of his Household in Ordinary, to accompany him to the Frontiers of Spain, the Copies of the two following Letters from that Embassador to Monsieur the Cardinal Alberoni of, the 1st and 2d Instant, sign'd by the said Embassador, and written at large with his own Hand, without Cypher, have been printed here.

SIR,

I Found it more necessary to use Precaution than Diligence in the Choice of the Means to convey to your Eminence the Papers I have here inclos'd; and therefore I have put this Packet into the Hands of Don Vincent Porto Carrero, Brother to the Count de Montijo, who goes to the Place where you are, charging him with great Care to deliver it to your Eminence. I have double seal'd it, and put it in two Covers. Your Eminence will find therein two different Minutes or Draughts of the Manifestoes, mark'd N^o 10 and 20, which our Workmen, (Agents) have compos'd, being of Opinion, That whenever the Mine is to be sprung they may serve as a Prelude to the Fire.

One of these Minutes relates to the Instances of the French Nation, of which I sent a Copy to your Eminence by an extraordinary Courier. The other with-

out any Relation to these Instances, sets forth the Grievances suffer'd by this Kingdom, grounding upon that Foundation the Resolutions of his Majesty, and requesting the Convocation of the States: It is our Misfortune to be oblig'd to have Recourse to extream Remedies, and begin the Enterprizes, it will be necessary for his Majesty to chuse one of these two Ways, and that he examine the Writing mark'd N^o. 32, in which our Partisans take the Liberty to propose to him, with Respect, all the Methods they think convenient, or rather necessary for the Accomplishment of our Desires; for avoiding the Misfortunes which they foresee to be ready to happen, and for securing the Life of his Most Christian Majesty, and the publick Tranquillity. The Writing mark'd N^o. 40, is a short Account of the several Transactions that have happen'd in other Minorities which may be a sufficient Instruction to regulate several Measures which are to be taken in the present Conjunction. Lastly, I send to your Eminence in separate Sheets, under N^o. 45, a Catalogue of the Names and Quality of all the French Officers, who desire to be employ'd in the Service of his Majesty. When your Eminence has seen all these Memorials, you may give your Advice on the Contents thereof, that his Majesty may take such Resolutions as he shall find most convenient for his Service. If War and Violences force us to set our Hands to work, it will be necessary to do it before we are weaken'd by the Attempts made upon us, and our Workmen (Agents) discourag'd, without having Time or Money. If we are forc'd to accept a feign'd Peace, it will be necessary, in order to keep the Fire alive under the Ashes, to give it some Fuel: And if the Divine Mercy be pleas'd to appease the Jealousies and present Dissatisfactions, it will be sufficient, out of the Gratitude to which we are oblig'd to protect and favour the most considerable Chiefs, who express now so much Zeal for the Service of our Master, and slight the Dangers to which they expose themselves. I expect the decisive Resolutions of his Majesty thereupon, and in the mean Time I endeavour to keep up their Good Will, and remove whatever can abate their Zeal. I am with Respect

Et.

Sign'd,

Paris, Decemb. 1, 1718.

N. Prince de Cellamare.

P. S.

P. S. Besides the Writings above-mention'd, I send to your Eminence another Mark'd, N^o 50, in which is shewn the Strength and Weight of the two different Minutes of the Manifestoes; and I must tell your Eminence, that by Reason of the Alterations which have happen'd, it was thought fit to lay aside that which I sent by an Express, dated *August 1*. I am, &c.

SIR,

THE chief Author of our Designs earnestly charg'd me some Months ago to convey to your Eminence the Letter annex'd hereunto; and to accompany the *Finances* of M — with the most pressing Testimonies and Offices. I deferr'd the Executing of this Commission 'till I had a safe Opportunity, that the Secret might not be expos'd to any Danger. I must now tell your Eminence, that I hear that Person spoken of as a Man of great Merit; and that the whole Party concern themselves very much in what relates to him. It was propos'd to introduce into his Majesty's Service M —, a Man of Quality; and because he is recommended to me by our Workmen, (Agents) I have distinguish'd him from the general Catalogue which I send to your Eminence. These Gentlemen have told me, moreover, that they may dispose of M — as they please; who is the Person that was sent for hither by the Regent, to cause, as they say, the Miquelets of *Catalonia* to rise; and they would still more strongly engage and secure him by an annual Gratuity or Pension.

As to what relates to the Answers given by your Eminence to my Propositions of the first of *August* last, I must tell you, that the Credential Letters which were desir'd, were to serve for the Offers, Demands, and Propositions which I should have Occasion to make, according to the Conjunctions, to the Parliaments, the Body of the Nobility, and the States-General. And that therefore they were to be drawn up in Form of full Powers which should be at the same Time limited by the Instructions of his Majesty, for my Conduct.

Whenever it is proper to set the Hands to Work, it will be necessary for his Majesty to write to all the Parliaments, conformably to the Letter he has already written to the Parliament of *Paris*, which has remain'd deposited in my Hands; and I will send by the ordinary Way to your Eminence a Catalogue of the Number

ber of those Parliaments, and the Manner to be observ'd in the Superscriptions.

As in the present Agitations some Misfortune may befall his Most Christian Majesty, which God avert, I desire your Eminence to consider, that the precious Life of that Monarch happening to fail, I shall find my self imbarra's'd, wanting the necessary Instructions to act ; it may also happen that Monsieur the Duke of Orleans should come to fail, (*vint a manquer, venisse a mancare*) in which Case I should find my self under the greatest Difficulties, in Respect to the new Form the Regency might take ; and in relation to the Design, which it would be necessary to facilitate or not, on the Part of his Majesty.

Monsieur the Duke *de Chartres* might pretend to come in the Room of his Father, and, in order to surmount the Obstacles of his Youth, submit to a Council like unto that which was constituted by the late King in his Testament. Monsieur the Duke *de Bourbon* might likewise, to the Exclusion of the Duke *de Chartres*, pretend to the absolute Authority exercis'd now by Monsieur the Duke *de Orleans*. And it is necessary to consider of this Case, and take the Party, which would be most advantageous to his Majesty's Service. His zealous Servants of the French Nation are more inclin'd for the former than the latter. I am &c.

Paris, Decemb. 2, 1718.

N. Prince de Cellamare.

When the King's Service and the necessary Precautions for the Security and Tranquillity of the State will permit the publishing of the Projects, Manifestoes, and Memoirs, mention'd in the two Letters aforesaid, the World will see the Circumstances of the detestable Conspiracy contriv'd by the said Embassador, to bring about a Revolution in the Kingdom.

Paris ; Printed at the Royal Printing House

This Intrigue which the Prince *de Cellamare* was carrying on, happen'd to be discover'd by the following Accident. That Minister having written the above Dispatches to his Court, entrusted them to one of the Sons of the Marquess of *Monteleone*, and to the Abbot *Porto Carrero*. These two Gentlemen, who had only Sir *Joseph Hodges* with them, set out in a Post.

Post-Chaise from *Paris* for *Madrid*; but they had not got above two Leagues of their Way, when the Chaise broke and overturn'd in a Slough of Water: The Possillion who drove them observ'd, that they were extremely concern'd that a Portmantua they had with them, was fallen into the Water, and heard one of them say, That he had rather lose a hundred thousand Pistoles than his Portmantua: In short, the Chaise was soon repair'd, and they arriv'd in it at the End of their first Stage, where, according to Custom they took a fresh Chaise and fresh Horses. The Possillion being return'd to *Paris*, related this Accident, and the uncommon Concern the Gentlemen had shewn for the Portmantua's falling into the Water: This being reported to the Regent, he assembled the Council of Regency, where it was resolv'd to send after and arrest them. Those who were charg'd with that Commission, overtook them at *Poitiers*, about eighty Leagues from *Paris*, and having arrested their Persons, took the Portmantua and sent it to *Paris*, where it was open'd, and the two above Letters, among others, were found in it. The Prince de Cellamare was kept at his own House 'till the 13th of December, and then set out from *Paris*, under a Guard of 50 Gens d'Armes, to be conducted to the Frontiers of Spain.

The Marquess de Pompadour, and several other Persons of Note, were immediately taken up and imprison'd for being concern'd in this Spanish Conspiracy: And on the 29th of December the Duke and Dutchess of Maine were taken into Custody, with several Persons of their Retinue, among them, their Intendant, the Sieur Mateineux. The Duke was sent Prisoner to the Citadel of Dourlens near *Amiens*, in *Picardy*, and the Dutchess to the Castle of *Dijon*, in *Burgundy*. Their two Sons, the Prince de Dombes, and the Count d'Eu, were order'd to repair, the first to *Bourges*, the other to *Gien*; but this was countermanded on the Intercession of their Uncle, the Count de Thoulouse, who pass'd his Word for their Fidelity and quiet Deportment: The Cardinal de Polignac was order'd the same Day to repair to his Abbey of *Clugny*, which he did accordingly, attended by one of the Gentlemen of the King's Household, that Place being allow'd him for his Prison.

On the 29th of Dec. O. S. [Jan. 9. N. S.] War was proclaim'd at *Paris* against Spain, by Virtue of an Ordinance

Ordinance of the *French King*, bearing Date the same Day. A Manifesto was likewise publish'd at the same Time, enlarging on the Reasons mention'd or only hinted at in the Declaration. These two Pieces are as follows.

BY THE KING.

HIS Majesty, faithful to the Engagements which the late King (of glorious Memory) enter'd into by the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*, and sensibly touch'd by the Counsels he gave him in the last Moments of his Life, to think of no other Glory but the Peace and Happiness of his Kingdom, has directed his Steps hitherto by those Rules, which shall forever be sacred to him. His Majesty, by the Advice of the Duke of *Orleans*, Regent, apply'd his first Care to the Uniting considerable Potentates for maintaining the Peace by the Tripple Alliance of *January 4, 1717*. That Precaution, and the Neutrality establish'd in *Italy*, left the *States* adjoining to *France* in a perfect Calm, and gave Foundation also for Hopes of supplying by new Measures, what should be wanting to the Perfection of the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*, for establishing more solidly the Tranquillity of *Europe*: But *Spain* in violating those Treaties, destroy'd in a Moment all the Hopes of Peace, and made People fear the Return of a War, as bloody and as obstinate as that which the late Treaties had terminated. His Majesty has neglected nothing to stop the Fire which *Spain* was kindling, and in Concert with the King of *Great Britain*, he has employ'd all his good Offices for negotiating an Accommodation between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, both advantageous and honourable to the *Catholick King*. His Majesty and the King of *Great Britain* have obtain'd not only all that the King of *Spain* had the most earnestly press'd the late King to obtain for him, but also other great Advantages: But as it could not be sure that the King of *Spain's* Minister would moderate the Ambition of his Projects, and that it was not just that the Repose of *Europe* should depend upon his Obstinacy or his secret Views; his Majesty and the King of *Great Britain* could not refuse, upon the Instances that were made to them, to agree, according to the Usage frequently practis'd on important Occasions for the publick Good, that if any of the Princes interested, refus'd to consent to Peace, they should unite their Forces.

Forces to oblige him thereto. The Emperor and the King of *Sicily* have consented to it : But all the Means which his Majesty and the King of *Great Britain* have used, separately and jointly, with the King of *Spain*, not having been able to make him suspend his Enterprizes, nor make him relish a Peace so suitable to his Interests and his Glory, his Majesty could not avoid to act according to the Engagements which he enter'd into by the Treaty of *London*, of the 2d of *August* last, without violating Justice, and abandoning the Interests of his People : And he is oblig'd, in Consequence of the third separate Article of the said Treaty, to declare War against the King of *Spain* ; yet at the same Time conjuring him with the same Instances that have for a long Time been incessantly made to him not to refuse Peace to a People who have brought him up in their Bosom, and have generously expos'd their Lives and Estates for maintaining him on the Throne of *Spain*, as he has himself acknowledged in his Declaration of the 9th of *November* last. If his Majesty be forc'd to carry his first Arms against him, he has at least the Consolation of preferring nothing to that Prince, but only the Safety of his own People, if indeed Arming at this Time against *Spain* be not as much for the Interest of that Prince and his Kingdom, as for the Interest of all *Europe*. And for this Purpose his Majesty, with the Advice of Monsieur the Duke of *Orleans*, Regent, has resolv'd to employ all his Forces both by Sea and Land, supported by the Divine Protection, which he implores upon the Justice of his Cause, to declare War against the King of *Spain*. His Majesty ordains and enjoins all his Subjects, Vassals, and Servants, to fall upon the *Spaniards*, and most expressly forbids them to have hereafter any Communication, Commerce, or Intelligence with them, upon Pain of Death ; and, in Consequence, his Majesty hath revok'd, and doth revoke from this present Time, all Declarations, Conventions, or Exceptions to the contrary, as also all Permissions, Passports, Safe-Guards, and Safe-Conducts, that may have been granted by him or by his Lieutenants-General and other his Officers, contrary to these presents, and hath declar'd and doth declare them Null and of no Effect or Value, forbidding all Persons whatsoever to have any Regard thereunto. His Majesty commands and ordains the Admiral, and the Marshals of

France, the Governors and Lieutenants-General for his Majesty in his Provinces and Armies, Marshals de Camp, Colonels of Horse and Foot, Captains, and other Commanders of his Troops, French or Foreigners, and all other his Officers to whom it shall belong, That they cause, each in his Station, the Contents of these presents, to be executed, in the Extent of their Powers and Jurisdictions. For such is the Pleasure of his Majesty, who Wills and Commands, that these Presents be publish'd and fix'd up in all the Cities and Towns, as well Maritime as others, and in all his Ports, Havens, and other Places of his Kingdom and the Territories under his Obedience, where it is needful, that none may hereof plead Cause or Ignorance,

Sign'd,

Done at Paris, January
the 9th, 1719.

LOUIS.

And Lower, Le Blanc.

A Manifesto shewing the Causes of Rapture between France and Spain. Publish'd by Authority, and printed at the Royal Printing-House at Paris.

KINGS are not accountable for their Actions but to God alone, from whom they derive their Authority. Being indispensibly engag'd to labour for the Happiness of their People, they are not oblig'd to give, an Account of the Means they take to succeed in it; and they may, according to their own Prudence, conceal or reveal the Mysteries of their Government. But as it is of some Importance to their Glory, and to the Tranquillity of their People, which cannot be separated, that the Motives of their Resolutions be known, they ought to act in the Face of the Universe, and make that Justice shine out in Publick, which they have consulted in Secret.

His Majesty, govern'd by the Counsels of the Duke of Orleans, Regent, believes himself under this Engagement, and makes it his Glory to expose to his Subjects and to the whole World the Reasons which have induc'd him to enter into new Alliances with several great Potentates, for the entire Pacification of Europe, for the particular Security of France, and even for that of Spain, who, at present mistaking her true Interests, disturbs the common Tranquillity by the Infraction of the last Treaties,

Ely

His Majesty can never impute that Infraction to a Prince, who is commendable for so many Virtues, and particularly for being a most religious Observer of his Word; so that it can be only owing to his Ministers, who having too lightly engag'd him, know how to make that Engagement itself a Reason and a Necessity to him to support it.

His Majesty, in the Measures which he has taken, proposes to himself to satisfy equally two Duties; the Love which he has to his People by preventing a War with all their Neighbours, with which they are threatned; and the Friendship he has for the King of *Spain*, by constantly taking Care of his Interests and his Glory, which shall for ever be the more dear to *France*, in that she looks upon them as the Reward of her long Labours, and of all the Blood which it cost her to maintain him upon the Throne.

These Intentions of his Majesty will sensibly show themselves, and without Interruption, in all the Facts hereafter mention'd.

'Tis known, that in the Course of the last War, *France* was almost reduc'd by her Losses to the hard Necessity of consenting to the recalling the King of *Spain*, and that she had without Doubt experienc'd that Grief, if Providence had not interpos'd, and prevented that Injustice, by changing the Events of the War, and the Hearts of our Enemies.

The Rights of the Catholick King were acknowledg'd at *Utrecht*; but the Emperor, altho' abandon'd by his Allies, would not yet renounce his Pretensions, The taking of *Landau* and *Friburg* could not even reduce him to it; and the late King, of glorious Memory, who in the Middle of his last Success, felt the extreme Need his People were in of Peace, concluded it not 'till after having propos'd to the Emperor in the Negotiation of *Rastadt*, to enter upon an Accommodation between him and the King of *Spain*. He had always in View the finishing his Work, and to stifle the Seeds of War which the Treaty of *Utrecht*, had left in *Europe*, by regulating only provisionally, and without the Concurrence of, the Emperor, the Interests of that Prince and of the King of *Spain*.

His Design of cementing the Peace by a Reconciliation between those two Princes, was insinuated at *Baden* the * 15th of *June*, 1714, to the Count *de Goes*, and communicated the 7th of *September* † following to Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, who assur'd, that the Emperor would not be averse to it. After the Signing of the Treaty of *Raden*, the King order'd the Marshal *de Villars* ‡ to pursue, with Prince *Eugene*, the same Object. And when the Count *de Luc* || was nam'd for the Kings Embassador to the Emperor, he has particularly charg'd by his Instructions to act according to those Views.

The King of *Spain* had often represented to the late King, by Letters written with his own Hand, that his Condition was not secur'd by the Treaties of *Utrecht*. You will easily judge, says he, in one of his Letters of the 16th of *May*, 1713, that the Peace, the Solidity whereof all the World equally desires, cannot be stable, if the Archduke, who disputes with me the Crown of *Spain*, doth not acknowledge me its lawful King.

You know, writes that Prince in his Letter, Jan 13, 1714, that I have comply'd with all the Preliminaries, and that I am ready to consent that *Naples*, the *Milaneze*, and the *Low-Countries*, shall remain to the Archduke, as I have done by *Sicily* in Favour of the Duke of *Savoy*, and by *Gibraltar* and the *Island of Minorca* in Favour of the English, and that I am ready to do the same by *Sardinia*, Favour to the Duke of *Bavaria*. The Archduke ought, upon these Conditions, to renounce what remains to me of the Monarchy of *Spain*. So that we may have no more, neither He nor I, to pretend upon one another.

I flatter myself, say's the same King of *Spain* in his Letter, May 17, 1714, that knowing of what Importance it is, to make the Archduke depart from all his Pretensions upon *Spain* and the *Indies*, you will put me into a Condition of establishing Solid Terms, to secure to me the peaceable Enjoyment of them.

This

* Letter of those Plenipotentiaries to the King, June 15, 1714.

† Letter of Marshal Villars to the King, Sept. 7, 1714.

‡ Memorial given to Marshal Villars from the King, Sept.

23, 1714.

|| Instructions for the Count de Luc, going to Vienna, January 3, 1715.

This Prince believ'd not himself secure in the Throne of *Spain* and the *Indies*, but by the Emperor's solemn Renunciation of his Pretensions, and he insisted so warmly upon that Security, only because he had known the Importance of it, thro' the Extremities he was reduc'd to by the Events of the War, excited by the Emperor's Pretensions. This was also all that he demand'd of the late King as the most sensible Pledge of his paternal Friendship, and as the last Effort with which he was to crown all that *France* had done for his Interests. The late King labour'd with all the Affection of a Father to satisfy his Grandson herein: But as the Emperor appear'd inflexible, and that there remain'd a Diffidence throughout *Europe*; it being the general Opinion that the Peace could not last, which kept still the greatest Part of the Potentates in Arms; the War in the North and the Alterations that happen'd in *Great-Britain*, made it fear'd that the Fire of War might soon be rekindled; it was necessary to take again new Measures for preventing it.

It was in these Conjunctions that the late King was taken from *France*. His Majesty will never forget those Advises, so salutary and so important, which he gave him in the last Moments of his Life. He is willing to make it the invariable Rule of his Reign, and the World will soon see that all his Steps have been answerable to it.

The long Wars had left in *Europe* the Remains of an Averseness and Hatred against us, which lay ready to revive; and our Neighbours, still full of the Jealousies and Fears they had so often had in our Prosperities, and even at our Resources in our greatest Disgraces, already meditated, for finishing our Downfall, to take Advantage of the Minority of the King, and the exhausted State of the Kingdom, of which we ourselves complain'd so loud as to encourage our Enemies to attempt any Thing. The old League threaten'd to join again, and the Nations mutually excited one another to War, by the Importance of securing themselves forever against a Power too formidable, and which they took Pains to render odious by unjust Reproaches of its Unfincerity.

What Means was there more sure for dissipating this Storm, than by uniting our self with the Potentate, who, in Concert with us, had restor'd Peace by the Treaty of *Utrecht*? The King neglected nothing for succeeding

ceeding in that Design. A Confidence between the two Potentates was by his Care restor'd, and they soon comprehended, that nothing would more contribute to confirm the yet ill-secur'd Peace, than a defensive Alliance between *France, England,* and the Republick of the United Provinces, for maintaining the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*, and for the mutual Guaranty of their Dominions. But before any Overture of Negotiations, his Majesty gave Advice of his Design to the King of *Spain*. The Duke de *St. Aignan* had Positive Orders, in the Month of *April*, 1716, to lay before him his Intentions, to offer him all his Assistance, and to invite him to enter into the Alliance, wherein he promis'd that he should be receiv'd with all the Regards that he could desire.

After many fruitless Instances, the Duke de *St. Aignan*, upon a new Memorial which he presented, receiv'd at last from Cardinal *del Guidice* an Answer, dictated in the Cabinet of the Palace by another Minister, who already bore the Chief Sway, and of whom the Cardinal was on this Occasion only the Interpreter. That Answer was, *The King my Master having examin'd the Extract which has been remitted to him, and the last Treaties sign'd at Utrecht, has not found in them any Clause that needs to be confirm'd.*

How wide a Difference is there between this Answer and the Letters which the King of *Spain* wrote to the late King, which consisted wholly of a continual and unquiet Representation of the Uncertainty of his State! His Majesty saw well that the Principles of Reconciliation and Peace which actuated him, were not those that were consult'd at *Madrid*; and that Idea was but too much confirm'd by the Disturbance the Commerce of the *French* already met with in *Spain*; by the Advices of Alliances that were making with some Potentates, under a Pretence of an approaching Misunderstanding between the two Nations, and by the secret Opposition which *Spain* made against our Alliance with the King of *Great Britain* and the States-General.

The King in the mean Time took no Notice of it. He did not abate of his Friendship and Regard to the King of *Spain*; but waiting patiently for the Time wherein he should be more sensible of his true Interests, he caus'd him to be told, that not being able longer to forbear finishing his Project of Alliance, he
affur'd

assur'd him that he would consent to nothing that was contrary to his Interests.

The Abbot *du Bois* was then sent to *Hanover*, to treat that Affair there with the King of *Great Britain*; and there it was that the Articles were agreed on, which were the Foundation of the Treaty of Triple Alliance, sign'd at the *Hague* the 4th of *Jan.* 1718, after the King of *Great Britain* had himself, in vain, imparted it to the King of *Spain*, and was even assur'd of the invincible Repugnance of the *Spanish* Minister to any Project of Union.

But however favourable that Alliance was to the publick Repose, it supply'd not what was wanting to the Perfection of the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*; because the Differences between the Emperor and the King of *Spain* not being adjusted in it, *Europe* was still in Uncertainty as to her Condition, and in Danger of being plung'd again in War by the first Hostility on one Side or other. *Italy* alone flatter'd it-self with some Repose, by Virtue of the Neutrality, which had been establish'd there by Treaties and Engagements, which were look'd upon as the first Step and Advance that might conduce to Peace. But altho' that Neutrality was truly a Law to which each of the two Princes had submitted himself, the Good of *Europe*, requir'd a more sure and more solemn one, which should be authoriz'd by the mutual Consent of the two Concurrents, and maintain'd by such Guarantees, that it might not be broken with Impunity. Such a Law could not be, but by a Treaty which should perminate forever the Disputes between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*.

The King of *Great Britain* was willing to attempt the procuring so great a Good to *Europe*, and open'd himself upon it to his Majesty, who saw with Pleasure the Intentions of the late King revive; and he believ'd it was to act for a Prince to whom he was strictly united by the Bonds of Consanguinity, to favour the Execution of all that paternal Tenderness had projected for him, and of all that he had himself demanded so positively and so earnestly. But his Majesty, who had already experienc'd, upon several Occasions, that nothing which might convince the King of *Spain* of his Friendship, found Access with him, could no longer doubt of it, when he saw that the

Marquess

Marquess de Louville, whom he sent to the King of Spain, to let him know his true Sentiments, and communicate to him Things of Importance to the two Crowns, was sent back without Audience, notwithstanding the particular Attachment that Lord had to the Person and Glory of the King of Spain. Being therefore too much instructed by Experience, that all Things were render'd suspected at Madrid, if propos'd in his Majesty's Name, he desir'd the King of Great Britain to act by himself at Vienna and at Madrid for the Success of the great Design, the rather, because he was not authoriz'd to treat of the Interests of the King of Spain, and that besides it was agreeable to the Dignity of so great a Prince to discuss it himself.

The King of Great Britain made at the same Time Overtures of his Views at Vienna and at Madrid. They were receiv'd favourably at Madrid, so far as Disguise serv'd to cover the Enterprizes they were meditating, and rejected afterwards with very little Respect, as soon as they thought it their Interest to dissemble no longer. No Dispositions were found at Vienna for any Accommodation at all, but upon Condition that Sicily, which had been hitherto an unsurmountable Obstacle to all Propositions of Reconciliation, should be put into the Hands of the Emperor, because he judg'd it absolutely necessary to the Preservation of the Kingdom of Naples. But then it was hoped that on this Condition the Catholick King should be acknowledg'd by the Emperor as lawful Possessor of Spain and the Indies: And farther, what was a fresh Advantage to him, that the Emperor should consent that the Successions of Parma and Placentia should be assur'd to the Queen of Spain's Children.

The Difficulties of that Negotiation ought not to have hurt the Neutrality of Italy, which was establish'd by the Treaty of Utrecht, March 14, 1713, and renew'd and confirm'd by that of Baden. The Emperor and the King of Spain seem'd themselves to have taken Precautions for securing that it should not be interrupted: For the King of Spain had taken Care, before the War of Hungary, to put the King of Great Britain in Mind, that he was Guarantee of the Engagements enter'd into at Utrecht for the Neutrality of Italy: And the Emperor, on his Side, when the Turks enter'd the Field, engag'd the Pope to demand of the King of Spain his positive Word of Honour.

Honour that he would not take Advantage against the Emperor, from the War the *Turks* had newly declar'd against him. The Interest of the King of *Spain* found it self conformable to that Promise; for he had been inform'd by the King of *Great Britain* of the Treaty concluded at *London* the 25th of May, 1716, between the Emperor and that Prince, importing a Guarantee of the Domitions of the Emperor in *Italy*, and an express Promise of giving him Succours in case he should be attack'd. In fine, the Piety so well known of the King of *Spain*, was still a greater Security than his Interest.

It could not be suspected then, that the King of *Spain*, perfectly instructed in the Treaty of 1716, would run the Risque of the Engagement with the King of *Great Britain*, by attacking the Emperor in *Italy*, and failing all at once in his Interest and in his Zeal for Religion. In the mean Time that Enterprize broke out, and we heard that an Armament, made by the Funds out of the Ecclesiastical Revenues and design'd for supporting the Glory of the Christian Name, was going to be made Use of in violating Treaties. There was need of no greater Proof than the evil Counsels, and the too great Power of the Minister, prevail'd in *Spain* over the Intentions and Virtues of his King.

His Majesty, alarm'd by a Step so dangerous, sent immediately an Express to the Duke de *St. Aignan*, whom he charg'd to represent, in lively Colours, to the King of *Spain*, the Dangers to which he expos'd himself; and what ought to make more Impression upon him, the Injustice of his Enterprize. He pray'd him, for the Sake of the common Tranquillity of *Europe*, and for his own personal Interests, to re-enter into the Views of Reconciliation, which the late King, his Grandfather, and, after him, the King of *Great Britain*, had already projected between him and the Emperor. Some Days after, he again order'd the Duke de *St. Aignan* to act in Concert with the Minister of *England*, who had receiv'd the same Orders, for engaging the King of *Spain* to authorize his Ambassador at *London*, or to send another Minister thither, to treat of the Means of solidly re-establishing the Peace. Colonel *Stanhope* was newly arriv'd at *Madrid*, and he was more particularly to make the same Instances. The King of *Great Britain* let his Majesty know, that

as the Evil press'd, no Time was to be lost for Remedies; that they could not be had, but by the unanimous Consent of impartial Potentates; and desir'd him to send an Embassador to *London*, whither, upon his Instances, the Emperor had also consented to send a Minister. His Majesty accordingly sent thither the Abbot *du Bois*; and being attentive to the Interests of the King of *Spain*, as well as to those of his own Kingdom, he believ'd that he ought to have, in the Conferences of *London*, a Minister who might preserve to the King of *Spain*, a Liberty to enter into the Negotiation, as soon as he could be made sensible of his true Interest. But in vain was Hopes given him of obtaining for him of the Emperor what he had so often demanded himself. We receiv'd nothing from his Minister but obstinate Refusals, and often even Threats of kindling again the Fire of War, notwithstanding all the Measures which we should think fit to take to prevent it. *Spain* seem'd to look upon the unanimous Sentiments of Peace, into which the Potentates enter'd, as a Conspiracy against her.

It was upon these Refusals, and upon these menacing Designs of *Spain*, that the King of *Great Britain* caus'd to be represented to his Majesty, that it was absolutely necessary to put a Stop to their Effects; and that no other Means offer'd to the Prudence of Impartial Potentates, than to form, for reconciling the Interests of the two Princes, a Plan which might be propos'd to them, and procure at what Price soever, their own Tranquillity, and that of all *Europe*. That Resolution favouring on one Side the Confirming of the Peace, which was the invariable Object of his Majesty, and giving, on the other Side to the King of *Spain* the Time and the Means of taking Resolutions conformable to his Interests, was embrac'd by his Majesty. But, in ordering the Abbot *du Bois* to enter into so necessary a Project, his Majesty recommended to him nothing so much, as constantly to reject every Thing that could suspend or hinder the Concurrence of the King of *Spain* to this Negotiation. What Combats had the King of *Great Britain* to undergo with the Emperor, to shake his Adhering to the Pretensions upon *Spain* and the *Indies*, to overcome his Repugnance to see the States of *Parma* and *Tuscany* enter one Day into the Hands of a Prince of the House

of Spain, and for extinguishing his Resentment upon the Infraction of the Treaties, for which he thought he had a Right to take Revenge! It was not without an infinite Trouble, that we got Step by Step over those Obstacles, and at the same Time contriv'd Advantages for the King of Spain, greater than were given him by the Treaty of Utrecht, and consequently, as is seen by his Letters, beyond even his own desires.

Thus was form'd at London, the Project of Conditions, which were to serve for the Foundation of a solid Peace between the Emperor and the King of Spain. The perfect Friendship of his Majesty for that Prince, was daily signaliz'd by the Instances which he made to him without Interruption, for sending Ministers who might discuss his Interests, by the Means which he had incessantly manag'd for his entering into the Negociation; and by his constant Efforts for procuring him new Advantages in the Treaty it self. But, not content with these Steps, he carry'd farther his Attention and Regards. He sent the Marquess de Nancré to the King of Spain, to impart to him the Project of London, while the King of Great Britain did the same to the Emperor.

His Majesty, in the first five Months of the Sojourn of the Marquess de Nancré at Madrid, represented incessantly to the King of Spain, That it would be equally for his Interest and his Glory to abandon an unjust Enterprize, and to accept Conditions which he had, as may be said, dictated himself, by the Instances of the late King. In fine, and it makes for his Glory to say it, He demanded of him the Peace of Europe in the Name of France, who had maintain'd him on the Throne by many Labours and so much Blood, and in the Name of his own Subjects, whose Zeal and Adherence, perhaps without Example, very well merited of their Prince not to be deliver'd into the Horrors of War.

All these Applications, founded upon the wise Conditions of the Project, drew nothing from the Minister of Spain, but an Acknowledgement of the Danger Spain was going to expose it self to, by resisting so many Potentates: But he assur'd at the same Time, That his Master would not desist from his Enterprizes, and he was not asham'd to throw upon him the Blame of his own Inflexibility. In fine, his Majesty let him know in the Month of June last, That

the Love which he ow'd to his People, and which ought to prevail above all other Thoughts, forbid him longer to defer the Signing the Treaty which the Emperor and the King of *Great Britain*. To which was added the Engagement of the King of *Great Britain* would be thereby under to send a Squadron into the *Mediterranean* to succour the Emperor. But nothing could shake the Minister, who was more and more incens'd by the Applications for Peace, and threaten'd to set all *Europe* in a Flame, Sir George Byng, who commanded the naval Force of the King of *Great Britain*, design'd for the *Mediterranean*, before he enter'd into that Sea, gave Advice to the Minister of *Spain* of the precise Orders he had to act as a Friend, if *Spain* desisted from her Enterprizes against the Neutrality of *Italy*, or if she would suspend them; and to oppose with all his Forces, if she persisted in it. But the Minister only answer'd, That he might execute the Orders he was charg'd with: Which left not the least Degree of Hopes.

At that Time the War ended between the Emperor and the *Turks*, and orders were already given for passing great Numbers of Troops into *Italy*. His Majesty, forc'd at last by the Circumstances of Affairs, no longer hesitated, agreeing with the King of *Great Britain* upon the Conditions which might serve for the Basis of a Peace between the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, and between the first of those two Princes and the King of *Sicily*; and it was those Conditions which form'd the Treaty sign'd at *London* the 2d of *August* last, between the Ministers of the Emperor and the King of *Great Britain*.

But the King of *Great Britain*, always conducted by a Spirit of Reconciliation and Peace, and being willing to prevent the Misunderstanding that might arise between his Crown and *Spain*, upon Occasion of the Succours he was oblig'd to give to the Emperor, believ'd he ought to make a last Effort with the King of *Spain*; and therefore sent the Earl *Stanhope* one of his Principle Ministers of State, to his Majesty, to pass afterwards to *Madrid*, if he thought fit.

It was while he was at *Paris*, that we heard the News of the Invasion of *Sicily* by the King of *Spain's* Troops, which hasten'd the Journey of Earl *Stanhope* to *Madrid*. He arriv'd there the Beginning of *August* last, and the Marquess de *Nancré* receiv'd fresh Orders

to act in Concert with him. But the lively Representations which both the one and the other redoubled, upon the Extremities to which the Inflexibility of the Catholick King might carry Things; the Assurance that was given him for all his Possessions by a Reconciliation with the Emperor, and by the Guarantee of the Powers contracting; the Promise which his Majesty procur'd for him of the Restitution of *Gibraltar*, which so sensibly concerns all the *Spanish* Nation, and which their King has for a long Time ardently desir'd; * in fine, the Declaration of the Engagements enter'd into at *London*, and the Necessity his Majesty and the King of *Great Britain* were under to execute them, immediately after the Expiration of three Months from the Day of the Signing the Treaty at *London*, were all to no Purpose. Earl *Stanhope* departed from *Madrid*, with the Affliction of seeing that the good Offices and Cares of his Master for preventing a Declaration against *Spain*, had had no Effect: But he had at least this Consolation, that nothing had been spar'd to overcome the Obstinacy of the Minister, who was alone the Cause of the Rupture, and of the Evils that should follow. In the mean Time the Marquess *de Nancré* had Orders to tarry, because the King was willing to give into the slight Hopes which the Minister had the Art to keep up for the gaining of Time. But his Majesty was sensible at last of the Uselessness, and of the Condescension. He was soon after inform'd of the Violences exercis'd upon the Persons and Effects of the *English* in *Spain*; in Prejudice to the 18th Article of the Treaty of *Utrecht* between *Spain* and *England*, which fixes the Term of six Months for withdrawing the Persons and Effects on both Sides in Case of a Rupture.

The Marquess *de Nancré* being at that Time departed from *Spain*, his Majesty, for satisfying the Treaty of *London*, order'd the Duke *de St. Aignan* to make Complaints of the Violence exercis'd against the *English*, and requir'd him to declare, that the Term of three Months left to the King of *Spain* for accepting the Conditions that was reserv'd for him, being to expire the 2d of *November*, he could not omit demanding of that Prince a decisive Answer; and the King

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Letter of the King of Spain to the late King, of the
11th of April, 1712.

of *Spain* persisting in his Refusal, he took Audience of Leave.

Hitherto we have only spoke in general of the Conditions reserv'd to the King of *Spain*: But we must exhibit them more particularly, the better to convince the World, not only of the Common Advantage, but also of the particular Advantage resulting from them to that Prince.

First, The Emperor expressly renounces, for himself, his Heirs, Descendants, and Successors, Male and Female, the *Spanish* Monarchy and the *Indies*, and all the Dominions of which the King of *Spain* was own'd to be lawful Possessor by the Treaty of *Utrecht*; and he engages himself to pass the necessary Acts of Renunciation in the best Form.

Secondly, Successions to the Dominions of the Duke of *Parma*, and the Great Duke of *Tuscany*, being like to occasion great Debates, and a new War in *Italy*, because the Queen of *Spain* pretends a Right to them by Birth, and that the Emperor maintains, that the Right to dispose of 'em, for want of Heirs Male, appertains to him and the Empire, it has been stipulated, that these Successions coming to be vacant, by the Death of the Princes now in Possession without Heirs Male, the Son of the Queen, and his Male Issue, and on Failure thereof, the second Son, and the other younger Sons of the said Queen, with their Male Descendants, shall succeed to all the said Dominions, which shall be found to be masculine, moving Fiefs of the Empire; and that Letters of Expectation, [*Litteræ expectatiorie*] containing the eventual Investiture of them, shall be given to the Son of the Queen, who ought to succeed. And for Security of the Execution of this Disposition, Garrisons shall be establish'd by the *Swiss Cantons*, in the principal Places of those Dominions, viz. at *Leghorn*, *Porto Ferraro*, *Parma*, and *Placentia*, in the Pay of the Mediators, with an Oath to keep and defend them under the Authority of the Princes now reigning, and to put them in Possession of Nobody but the Prince, Son of the Queen of *Spain*, when these Successions come to be vacant.

Thirdly, It has been stipulated, That neither the Emperor, nor any other Prince of the House of *Austria*, who shall possess the Kingdoms, Provinces, and Dominions of *Italy*, shall ever, in any Case, appropriate to themselves, the Dominions of *Tuscany* and *Parma*.

Fourthly,

Fourthly, As it was not possible to engage the Emperor to desist from the Pretensions which he has always reserv'd for himself upon *Sicily*, it has been agreed, that it shall be given up to that Prince; who, on his Part, shall quit to the King of *Sicily*, by Way of Equivalent, the Kingdom of *Sardinia*; reserving to the King of *Spain* the Right of Reversion of that Kingdom to his Crown, as he reserv'd it to himself for *Sicily*, by the Act of Cession which he made of it, in Consequence of the Treaties of *Utrecht*.

Fifthly, There is left to the King of *Spain* a Term of three Months, from the Day of Signing the Treaty, for accepting the Conditions offer'd him, which all the contracting Parties have guaranteed and engag'd themselves to see executed.

Sixthly, As it would not be just, that the Peace of *Europe* should depend on the Obstinacy or particular Views of one or two Powers only, and that the Emperor might not be induc'd to deliver his Renunciation before the King of *Spain* should come into the Treaty, if he had not some other Security given him besides; the contracting Parties have agreed to join their Forces, to oblige the refusing Prince to accept the Peace, agreeable to what has been frequently practis'd for the publick Repose, on important Occasions.

Seventhly, 'Tis expressly agreed, That if the contracting Powers be oblig'd to make Use of Force against him who refuses to accept the propos'd Accommodation, the Emperor shall content himself with the Advantages stipulated for him in the Treaties, how successful soever his Arms may be.

Eighthly, In the last Place, the King has engag'd himself to obtain for the King of *Spain* the Restitution of *Gibraltar*.

• These are the Conditions which the Minister of *Spain* so haughtily rejected. They are, however, so well accommodated to the common Tranquillity, that the King of *Sicily*, who, by the Inequality betwixt *Sicily* and *Sardinia*, seems to be the only Prince who loses by this Plan, has lately accepted the Treaty.

A plain and sincere Narrative of these Facts, is enough to enable the World to judge what Part *France* ought to be taken in such Conjectures,

The King of *Spain* attacks *Sardinia*, and takes as much Care to conceal his Design from the King as from the Emperor. After this Infraction of Treaties, and after the Emperor's Declaration, that he will agree to accommodate Matters, what could his Majesty do?

By continuing Neuter. he would have equally displeas'd and discontented the Emperor and the King of *Spain*; and in the Progress of the War, a Power so considerable as *France*, could not have acted an Indifferent Part.

If she had join'd with *Spain*, his Majesty would thereby have violated the Treaty of *Baden*, and given the Emperor a Right to declare War against him, which he must have maintain'd in *Italy*, upon the *Rhine*, and in the *Netherlands*. Farther, The Emperor would have arm'd against him all his Confederates, or rather all *Europe*, which must have been alarm'd at the Conjunction of the Forces of *France* and *Spain*. Thus *France* would have found herself involv'd again in the Calamities of a general War.

If the King had found no other Means to prevent those Calamities, ~~so~~ to enter into an Alliance with the King of *Spain*'s Enemy, for executing the greatest Rigours against him, however grievous this Method might have been to his Majesty, it would have been neither the less just nor the less necessary. The Safety of the People, which is the only Thing that ought to command Sovereigns, would have forc'd him to embrace it, and the Example of the late King himself, who made all his paternal Affection give Way to that Duty, would as strongly forbid his Successor to sacrifice it to the Rights of Blood. But how far different from that is the Part which the King has chosen? He leagues with the Emperor, but it is by offering, at the same Time, to the King of *Spain*, even that Enemy and the rest of the greatest Powers of *Europe* for Allies, whenever he pleases to accept them. It is by confirming him on his Throne, his Possession of which will then become uncontrovertible; it is by procuring him all that he ever desir'd, and more than he hop'd for, and to all *Europe* a solid and durable Peace.

The new Enterprize of the King of *Spain* in *Sicily*, sufficiently shews, that tho' we should have
contented

Contented our selves with restoring only the Neutrality of *Italy*, he would not have consented to it, and that we should have had as much Trouble to make him restore *Sardinia* to the Emperor, as we can have to see the whole Treaty put in Execution. In short, what could have been done even by the Success of the *Spaniards* there? for that could never have annull'd the Emperor's Pretensions to *Sicily*, but only made him suspend his Enterprizes for some Time.

His Majesty then had no other Way left for preventing the War, but to pursue the Project of Accommodation betwixt the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, and thereby to give Peace to *France*, *Italy*, nay, to *Europe*, without costing *France* any Thing else but honourable Offices; nor does it cost *Italy* any Thing but the Advantage which the Emperor has by the Exchange of *Sicily* for *Sardinia*, which is counter-ballanc'd by the Bounds which the Emperor prescribes to himself in the Treaty, and by the Engagements which the principal Powers of *Europe*, have enter'd into, to guarantee the Possessions of the other Princes in *Italy*, in the same State as they are at present.

Spain is so far then from having any Cause to complain of the King for undertaking at this Time a most just War, to avoid one that is the most dangerous and most ruinous for his Subjects; that the King has just Cause to complain of *Spain*, for reducing him to this Extremity, by an obstinate Refusal of Peace, under such frivolous Pretexts as Nobody has been hitherto capable of understanding.

Sometimes 'tis a Point of Honour founded on this, That the Successions of *Parma* and *Tuscany* are agreed to only as Fiefs of the Empire. But how can we believe that the King of *Spain* shou'd be offended at a Condition for a Prince of his Family, which so many Kings of *Spain* and *France* have not only submitted to, but even courted; and, in the last Place, the late King, his glorious Grandfather, and the King of *Spain* himself.

Sometimes it is the Inequality betwixt the Restoration of *Sardinia* and that of *Sicily*; but can such a small, such an uncertain, and so remote a Disadvantage be put in the Ballance against so many present and solid Advantages? In fine, what ought to decide the Matter, is this, That we could no otherwise obtain the Emperor's Renunciation to

Spain and the *Indies*, but upon this Consideration, Ought the Surety of the King of *Spain's* Condition to be compar'd with such trifling Difficulties? and does not so great an Interest make all the rest to vanish?

Sometimes 'tis the Pretext of a Ballance that is absolutely necessary in *Italy*, and which we are about to overturn by adding *Sicily* to the other Dominions which the Emperor possesses there. But does the Desire of a more perfect Ballance deserve, that we should re-involve our People in the Calamities of a War, from which they have so much Difficulty to recover themselves? And is not even this Ballance, the Want of which *Spain* seems to regret, sufficiently secur'd, and more compleatly, perhaps, than if *Sicily* had continu'd in the House of *Savoy*? The Establishing of a Prince of the House of *Spain* in the Middle of the Dominions of *Italy*, the Bounds which the Emperor has prescrib'd to himself by the Treaty, the Guaranty of so many Powers, the unchangeable Interests of *France*, *Spain*, and *Great Britain*, maintain'd by the Maritime Power; do so many Securities leave Room to bewail the Want of another Equilibrium? If at the Time of the Peace of *Utrecht* the Imperial Arms had been possess'd of *Sicily*, as they were of the Kingdom of *Naples*, the King of *Spain* wou'd not have made any Difficulty to consent to this Disposition; and the Minister of *Spain* himself made no Scruple to say, that the King his Master had never reckon'd on his keeping of *Sicily*, * and that if he made a Conquest of it, he wou'd be induc'd, since all *Europe* wou'd have it so, to restore it even to the Emperor.

The true Motives of this Refusal, which have hitherto been impenetrable, come at last to break out. The Letters of the *Spanish* Embassador to Cardinal *Alberoni* have taken off the Veil which cover'd 'em, and we now see with Horror what it was that made the Minister of *Spain* inaccessible to all Projects of Peace. He wou'd thereby have seen all the odious Plots which he form'd against us prove abortive. He wou'd have lost all Hopes of laying this Kingdom desolate, of raising up *France* against *France*, of

* Letter from the Marquess de Nancré of September 1718.

ing the Management of Rebels among all the Orders of State, of kindling a Civil War in the Bosom of our Provinces; and, in fine, of becoming to us the Scourge of Heaven, by putting in Execution those seditious Projects, and *springing that Mine which was*, according to the Words of the Embassador's Letter, *to serve as a Prelude to the Conflagration.* What a Recompence is this to *France*, for the Treasures and Blood of which she has been so profuse for the Sake of *Spain*!

Providence has kept off those Calamities from us; and all *Frenchmen*, on the Discovery of this Treason prepar'd against us, expect and press that we should revenge it. But his Majesty espouses only the Interests of his People, and not his own Passions. He only takes Arms now to procure a Peace, without abating any Thing of his Friendship, for a Prince, who without Doubt must abhor those perfidious Designs that were form'd against us. Happy wou'd it have been, cou'd his Virtues have made him Proof against being surpriz'd by his Minister; and if by putting perfidious Counsels to Silence for ever, he had kept to his own Word, and consulted his Justice and Religion, which do all of them sollicit for Peace.

P. S. Since the printing of his Manifesto we have had a *Bulle* or Note from Cardinal *Aberoni* to the Prince of *Cellamare*, which was in a Packet of Letters, dated *December 14*, brought by an Express who was seiz'd at *Bordeaux*, and which by Consequence was writ before the Cardinal knew any Thing of what had pass'd here, on the 9th, with respect to the Embassador of *Spain*. The *Bulle* relates to the Violence committed against the Duke of *St. Aignan*, to whom a Party of the King of *Spain's* Guard du Corps was sent the 13th of this Instant *December*, to oblige him to quit *Madrid* by Force.

We may see by the Orders which Cardinal *Alberoni* gave to the Prince of *Cellamare*, what his Intentions were, and how happy it is for us that they were discover'd.

A Note from Cardinal Alberoni to the Prince de Cellamare, join'd to one of his Letters to that Embassador, of December 14, 1718.

WHatever Advices you receive as to what has pass'd here with respect to the Duke of St. Aignan, it ought not, in any Manner, to be an Example for using the like towards your Excellency. It was necessary for us to take this Course with him, because he had taken his Leave, because he had no farther Character, and by Reason of his ill Conduct. Your Excellency will continue firmly resolv'd to stay at Paris, and not to leave it 'till thereunto constrain'd by Force. In that Case, you must submit, after having made the requisite Protestations to the Most Christian King, to the Parliament, and to all others whom it may concern, against the Violences which the Government of France exercises against your Excellency's Person and Character.

Supposing that you are oblig'd to depart, *You shall see Fire first to all the Mines.*

Some Days before the Publication of this Manifesto, the following Declaration, in the Name of the King of Spain, was dispers'd throughout the whole Kingdom of France.

A Declaration by the Catholick King, of the 15th of December, 1718.

THE Advices which I have receiv'd from all Parts, that our late great Magazines have been form'd on the Frontiers of France, and that the Generals are already nam'd, who are to command an Army there, divers other Military Preparations, and lastly the Outrage newly done contrary to the Rights of Nations to my Embassador, give me Ground to believe, that against all Reason, an Irruption is intended to be made into my Dominions. So irregular and barbarous a Proceeding, being more surprizing to me, because it is evident, that the Most Christian King, my dearest Nephew, has no part in it, being incapable, from his tender Years, and more from the Sweetness of his Disposition, of so black an Action. Neither ought it to be imputed to a Nation which

I tender

to tender love, and to which I am ty'd by such strict Ties. None is ignorant, That besides my being born and brought up in its Bosom, it united its Forces with those of my faithful Subjects, and that, in Concert with them, it has maintain'd me on the Throne of Spain, at the Expence even of its Blood, and in Spite of the utmost Efforts of almost all Europe combin'd against me. This detestable Project therefore not being to be imputed to the King, my dearest Nephew, with whom I propose to maintain, all my Life, an affectionate and sincere Correspondence; nor to the Nation, which is so dear to me, and has sacrific'd all for me; cannot but be the Work of a Private Person, whose premeditated Designs, for a long Time, are but too well known in the World. Prosperity will hardly believe, that he should have so divested himself of all Sense of Religion and Humanity, as for gaining his own Ends to trample upon the most sacred Rights of his native Country, of a Pupil King, of the blood of France, and that he should break an Union which cost the Lives of a Million of Men, and for which the King my Grandfather hazarded every Thing, even his own Kingdom, in a Persuasion that the Preservation and Happiness of the two Crowns depended on it; and that he thereby put an End to everlasting Wars between two neighbouring Kings, whose Concord is of equal Importance to the Quiet of all Europe, and to that of the two Nations. It cannot be doubted, that the faithful Subjects of the King, my dearest Nephew, are frighten'd and scandaliz'd at so monstrous a Novelty, especially knowing, that during the Minority of the King, neither War can be declar'd, nor any Thing whatever undertaken, which may be of very fatal Consequence to the whole Nation, without the Consent of the States, because the States are the only Trustees of the Authority of a Pupil King, and have the Defence of the Kingdom solely in their Charge.

No Person, however prepossess'd and seduc'd by false and specious Prejudices, but if he reflect ever so long, must at last agree, That 'tis not in the Power of a private Person to make a Wrong Use of the Name and Authority of a Minor King, to engage the whole Nation in a War, which cannot but be very dangerous; because, it is very likely, that the War being once lighted into a Flame, the most implacable Enemies

Enemies of *France*, will be drawn into its very Centre, who will ravage it under the Pretext of succouring it.

I am perswaded that all true *Frenchmen*, mov'd with these just Reasons, will abhor taking Arms; and in Case they do take them, I promise my self from their honest Hearts, that it will be only to defend my Crown, which, seconding the Zeal and Courage of my faithful Subjects, they have so long supported with the Love they so naturally bear to their Prince, and of which they have given such shining Proofs in all Ages. If with that Disposition they come on my Enemies, (as I make no Doubt they will) I protest I will receive them with open Arms, as my good Friends and good Allies; I will give the Officers Employments suitable to their Rank, I will incorporate the Soldiers among my Troops, and I shall take Pleasure in exhausting, if it be necessary, my Treasures in their Favour, to the End that all together, *Spaniards*, and *French*, we may unanimously combat the Enemies of the two Nations.

But if it happen, which I cannot think, that any private Man should forget his Duty, by committing Acts of Hostilities in my Kingdoms, he may well expect to be generally look'd upon as a Rebel Subject to the most Christian King my dearest Nephew, and a Traitor to his Native Country. Given at the Castle of the Pardo, the 25th of December, 1763.

Sign'd,

I THE KING.

And Counter-sign'd,

Don Miguel Fernandes Duran.

No sooner was this Declaration dispers'd in *Paris*, than the Parliament there publish'd an Arrest, ordering the said Declaration to be suppress'd as seditious, tending to Rebellion, and contrary to the Royal Authority: Forbidding likewise all Printers, Booksellers, and others, to print, sell, or otherwise disseminate the same, upon Pain of being prosecuted as Disturbers of the publick Peace, and guilty of High Treason.

On the 5th of *February*, N. S. the Earl of *Arbuthnot*, Ambassador Extraordinary of his Britannick Majesty to the Most Christian King, made his publick Entry into *Paris*, with the utmost Magnificence; and being on the 7th of that Month introduc'd to his first

Audience.

His Majesty, His Excellency, made the following Speech to the French King.

SIR,

THE King of Great Britain, my Master, has sent me his Ambassador Extraordinary to your Majesty, to congratulate you on your Accession to the Crown, and to assure you, that he desires nothing more ardently, than to maintain and improve that perfect Friendship which is so happily establish'd with your Majesty, and to confirm and increase the Union and mutual Confidence between the two Nations, which is so beneficial to each of them: As long as these Nations remain united, no foreign Force can endanger the Constitution of either State; and their Union may naturally be of long duration, they having nothing to claim the one of the other, and there being no Pretensions to be decided between them.

Nature has bounded Great Britain by the Sea: She seeks nothing that belongs to her Neighbours: She naturally finds her Advantage in the publick Quiet and Tranquillity: Her Interest as well as the Inclination and Wisdom of her King, dispose her to desire the Peace and Happiness of her Neighbours, and to contribute thereto.

Your Majesty is possess'd of the finest and most powerful Kingdom of Europe; it wants nothing but Quiet and Tranquillity to render it the most happy and the most flourishing.

These two potent Nations, so happily situated, united by Interests so natural, and by Treaties so wisely concerted, will not only be happy in the Constitutions of each State, as long as their Union lasts, but will communicate the Happiness they enjoy, to their Neighbours, and to all Europe.

The Treaty lately made, sets out so clearly the Bounds between the Chief Powers, so carefully provides against all Occasions of War, that human Prudence can foresee in the Course of Time, and settles a Guarantee of such a Peace, and of such a Force, for the publick Tranquillity, that we have strong Reason to flatter ourselves no Power will attempt to disturb it: And your Majesty will find the Satisfaction and the Glory to see, in the auspicious beginnings of your Reign, France and all Europe re-establish'd, which have been so cruelly torn to Pieces by such long and destructive Wars.

That,

That, in which your Majesty is accounted engaged jointly with your Allies, will be of short Continuance: It is impossible that the ungovern'd Passion and blind Ambition of particular Persons, should long withstand the Forces of the greatest Powers of Europe, united for establishing the publick Tranquillity on lasting and solid Foundations. The publick Peace and Welfare will soon succeed these transient Alarms.

The King, my Master, wishes your Majesty may enjoy in a long Course of Years, you, and your Descendants, uninterrupted Fruits of that Welfare; and that the two Nations, as well as the Kings, may ever be united, as well during his Reign as those of his Posterity.

As I have had the Happiness to see those Engagements form'd, which unite the King, my Master, with your Majesty, I shall think my self very fortunate if by my Endeavours I may any Way contribute to the keeping up of this happy Union, and to the rendering it more perfect between the two Nations.

The Answer return'd by his Majesty, was,

THAT he was extremely pleas'd with the good Intelligence between himself and the King of Great Britain; that he was satisfy'd it was very beneficial to the two Nations; that his Excellency might assure the King, that, on his Part, he would do all that was in his Power for continuing and improving the Friendship and good Correspondence with the King, and between the Nations; and that the Choice, which the King had made of his Excellency, was very agreeable to him.



S W E D E N

THE News of the King of Sweden's Death being brought to Stockholm, on the 5th of December, the Senate assembled the next Day, and resolv'd to proclaim his Sister the Princess Ulrica, Eleonora, which was done accordingly; and on the 11th of that Month the new Queen publish'd the following Declaration for assembling the States of the Kingdom.

Anglo-Swedish, notifying to them her Succession to the Crown.

WE *Ulyica Eleonora*, by the Grace of God Queen of Sweden, and of the *Goths and Vandals*, Great Princess of *Finland*, Dutchess of *Schonen*, *Estonia*, *Livonia*, &c. To all our beloved, true, and Faithful Men and Subjects, States of the Kingdom, Counts, Barons, Bishops, Knights, and Gentry, Clergy, Military Officers, Burghers, and Commons of the Cities and Towns, Inhabitants within the Dominions of Sweden, and the Great Principality of *Finland*, our especial Favour, gracious Greeting, and Good-Will in our Lord God Everlasting.

We cannot but graciously notify to all and every of you, that as Almighty God hath in former Times visited this Kingdom, our most dear Native Country, with manifold Punishments and Calamities, for our Sins; so hath he now lately made us feel the Weight of his heavy Indignation, having been pleas'd by his unchangeable Counsel and Decree, to the extreame Grief and loss of us and the Royal Family, and of you all, to take from us, by an unexpected and sudden Death, our most honour'd and beloved Lord and Brother, the most potent Prince, *Charles the Twelfth*, King of Sweden, of the *Goths and Vandals*, Great Prince of *Finland*, Duke of *Schonen*, *Estonia*, *Livonia*, *Carrelia*, *Bremen*, *Verden*, *Stetin*, *Pomerania*, *Cassubia*, and *Venden*, Prince of *Rügen*, Lord of *Ingermerland* and *Wismar*, Count Palatine of the *Rhine* and *Bavaria*, Duke of *Julier*, *Cleves*, and *Bergues*, &c. late our and your most gracious King. And though we doubt not that this his lamented Death grieves you as well as us to the Heart, because you well know, that it has happen'd at a Time when the Kingdom was attack'd and surrounded on all Sides from without, by violently incens'd and powerful Enemies, and in every Part within is so harras'd and decay'd by the long Wars, and the many Misfortunes and inconveniencies thence arising, that no Hope was left us, but in the great Mercy and Omnipotence of God, of surmounting the extreme Distress and Danger it was in: Yet must we not now let our Courage, Resolution, and Strength droop; but, in the first Place with confiding and humble Hearts beseech God, to inspire and to bless such Counsels, as in this sorrowful State

State of Affairs may be best and most for our dear native Country, and then with Hope of God's Favour and Goodness, apply courageously to the Work, that our Adversaries may see we do not despond, nor have abandon'd ourselves. In this Situation of Affairs, it cannot but be agreeable to you to be informed, that we, mov'd by the due Care of our and your Good and Welfare, have not been deterr'd by the difficult Circumstances of these Times, from ascending without the Royal Throne, which by the unhappy Death of his Majesty, our most honour'd and beloved Lord and Brother, by our Hereditary Right is become ours; and that in the Name of the Almighty, with imploring his powerful Assistance and Support, we have actually taken upon us the Government; in the Administration of which, our thorough Intention and Determination is, out of a sincere and cordial Regard to the Welfare, Prosperity, and Happiness of our Kingdom, any of all our faithful Subjects, as we have already declar'd to the Council, and now more publickly to you by these Presents, to amend and reform all Novelties that have been introduc'd, and entirely to abolish absolute and despotick Sovereignty, which we do hereby for us and our Successors utterly renounce for ever. On the contrary, of Great Imitating the laudable Examples of our Ancestors, very beneficial to renowned Kings of Sweden, who brought might assure the and our beloved native Country into a State that was in addition, we will endeavour any contribute Friendliness, to re-establish the Government of the Realm, that antient Form and Dignity it happily enjoy'd in former Times: Being perswaded, that our Royal Power is in the greatest Vigour, when by Justice and Clemency we have founded and establish'd it on the Hearts of our faithful Subjects. On the other Hand, we graciously trust, that all of you in general, and every one in particular, as wise Swedish Lords, and Men, will, according to your old celebrated Loyalty to the Crown, Power, with Fidelity, Affection, and Unanimity, concur with us in such laudable Designs; and that by your common Advice and Aid you will support the Burden, which, in the Name of the Great and Almighty God, we have taken upon us. And that you may have an Opportunity of taking your said Advice upon the present difficult Circumstances of the Affairs of the Realm, and of consulting together, and settling

restoring the Strength of the Kingdom, and for procuring and obtaining a most desirable Peace again with our Enemies without, We have thought fit to summon our faithful Subjects and States of the Kingdom to a general Assembly, which is fix'd to the 20th of January, 1719; which Term, though short, and though the Trouble and Expence to which, on such an Occasion, each of you is liable, fall heavy in this difficult Time; yet the same being, in many Respects, most necessary and unavoidable, you will, out of Regard to Us, the common Interest of the Kingdom, and the general Welfare, deem them fit to be sustain'd and comply'd with. We therefore hereby most graciously command, all Counts, Barons, Knights, Vassals, and Freemen, who are of Age, inhabiting this Kingdom, and not lawfully or reasonably hinder'd; as also all Bishops and Superintendants, with two reputable Members of each Consistory, and a Preacher of each District; also all Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels, with one Captain of each Regiment, who are not under any lawful Hindrance; as likewise one Burgo-Master of each Town, with one of the Common Council, or other substantial Burgher; and, lastly, one Man of the Commonalty of each District, by the said 20th of January to appear, Week; and without Delay, here at Stockholm, with sufficient and precipitate from your Equals left at Home; each to patch Couriers District, reach according to his Rank, with such you circumstances, provided with decent Mourning Habits, in this present dismal Juncture; to the End we may then open the Assembly, and timely lay our gracious Propositions before you, and after a happy Conclusion let you return Home, &c. Given at Stockholm the 15th of December, 1718.

Sign'd,

ULRICA ELEONORA, (L. S.)

nemica,

decay'd Death of the King of Sweden is related as follows. On the 30th of November, between the Hours 11 and 9 at Night, being in the Trenches before Gothenburg, he receiv'd a Musket-shot in his Head, which was the instantly dy'd. He was on his Knees at the fatal End of the Trenches, when he receiv'd that fatal Blow: Several Officers had besought his

Majesty not to expose himself, to its very centre. Fire of the Besieged; but he was dead before their treaties, and only answer'd the wth That he would himself see what was doing. The Prince of Hesse Cassel, who was in the Army, having Notice of his Death, gave Orders for seizing Baron Gortz, who was on his Way to the Camp. The Officer, who was charg'd with this Order, met the Baron at *Stromstadt*, a Post-Chaise: The Baron desir'd him to quit his Chaise and come into the Chaise; he did so, and when they were got to the next Village, they both alight, and went into the Minister's House, where the Baron propos'd only to refresh himself, and have some Talk with the Officer; but was soon told by him, that he had Orders to secure him: The Baron calmly reply'd, That he had long expected it, and delivering his sword to the Officer, Thus, said he, am I rewarded for all the great Services I have done to Sweden; and not knowing of the King's Death, he wrote a Letter to his Majesty. He was conducted to *Stockholm*, and there thrown into close Confinement. Count *Vandernoeth*, and several other Persons of Distinction, were likewise imprison'd by the new Queen's Command.

The Death of the King of Sweden will in all Probability change the whole Scene of Affairs Great North, and produce a Peace on the Continent, which could scarce be expected without the sight assure the the Death of that Prince, or some that was in an extraordinary Event. He had too great a sense to submit to any Terms, without a Restitution of the Countries that had been taken from him: He was a Prince whom even his Enemies allow to have been endow'd with great Virtues; His Courage and Magnanimity are scarce to be parallell'd in History; but, above all, his Zeal for his Religion deserves the highest Encomium. The many Churches that he compell'd the Houses of *Austria* to restore to the persecuted Protestants in *Silesia*, ought to render his Memory dear and honour'd to all who profess that Communion, and oblige them to overlook some Faults in the Prince, and impute them to the Frailty of human nature.

HOLLAND.

On the 10th of January the Marquess Beretti Landi, Embassador of Spain, had a Conference with the Deputies of the States-General, to whom he made the following Speech, and communicated to them, at the same time, the Translation of a Letter he had receiv'd from Cardinal Alberoni.

Speech of the Marquess Beretti Landi to the Deputies of the States General.

BY my Dispatches from Court of the 19th past, I receiv'd, in the first Place, the agreeable News that the King, my Master, is (thanks be to God) very well; of which important Advice I thought it my Duty to acquaint the States-General.

His Majesty orders me, with the most tender Expressions, to declare to you the strong Sense he has of his Obligations to you; for that, maugre the violent Solicitations of those Potentates, who endeavour by all manner of Stratagems to perswade you to enter into no alliance, you continue still to side with Wisdom and Weak; and who, sue the true-Interest of the Republick, and precipitate, that is to say, to hold your selves in Watch Couriers, without abandoning the good Resourse of each you vowing your good Offices every where to procure peace. His Majesty says, that there are very many, who, thro' a deplorable Blindness, and against all Reasons of State, labour to aggrandize the Archduke, without Regard to the Treaty of Utrecht; and the Demand of your Accession to the Alliance has no other End, but to push on that monstrous System.

They would deprive you of his Royal Confidence, and of the happy Opportunity of being one Day Menemies, and Umpires: For it only depends on your Condescend'd obtain one of these two Points, either the Glory and being contributed to the publick Tranquillity, or at least the Consolation and Honour of having supported God's Sovereignty. For the Threats which have been and is was usually denounc'd against you, plainly shew, that you and especially does not abandon the Imagination of acting here with full Authority.

The

The King of Spain has declar'd its very Contribution for the Mediation of the State, (whatever others may say) as a pious monarch, full of Moderation, is willing to agree to an honorable Treaty.

His Majesty, by this very Post, requires me to repeat to you, on his Part, the same Offers, and the same Desire. I know that the Powers who have different Views oppose it. The Archduke opposes it, (and indeed he has Reason so to do) since the same Project, fram'd at Hanover, gives him every Thing; and, by Consequence, he has no Occasion to court a better Expedient, than what is granted him by the fatal Mistake of the Cabinets of France and England. The King of Great Britain, and his Royal Highness the Regent, oppose it also for Reasons which all the World knows, and which I think superfluous to mention here, since they are in every Body's Mouth. Upon this Foot, Gentlemen, 'tis impossible for you to know the Wrong done you, in depriving you not only of being Mediators, but Neuters, and be able to unfold the hidden Designs which occasion such a Refusal: Whereas his Majesty's entire View has been all along, if he cou'd, to make you Arbitrators, he having not courted you either to make an Alliance with him against the others, nor to take Measures which might ever so little injury beneficial to the great Work of Peace. 'Tis a Year ago that I might assure you I had the Honour to tell you this; and that was in a Month after Month, Week after Week, and I am now to be able to write, that one of your Ministers could go to Spain, to improve his Majesty's Intention and Confidence, according to my Instructions often repeated. You have chose an Ambassador a long while. If it so happen in a Way, that his Majesty may entirely confide in the Republick, you will be convinc'd, Messieurs, that the King has always spoken to you with Sincerity, and that his Majesty, dispos'd, as he is, for Peace, singled out the Republick, with Predilection, as the only Power to which he heartily gave the Marks of Esteem and Friendship in so nice a Conjunction. I earnestly wish that you wou'd at length think to make Tryal of his Majesty's Royal and Sacred Intentions.

In the mean Time, as you are concern'd for Peace, I me tell you, that you ought no less to be concern'd in guard.

ing the Violences done to you, and which may rather make it difficult than easy to come at. 'Tis a great Paradox, to assure you that you will persuade Peace, by entering into an Alliance which favours of less than War; and that the Remedy of Negotiation is, by this captious Proposition, entirely rejected. Add to this, that the King of Spain desires you, and that the others threaten you, and particularly in the Article of Commerce. They aim to do you more Michie, interrupting your Trade, than the King of Spain proposes to do you Good by favouring it. God grant that one of those two Powers has not certain Views in this Article that look farther. It may be, they also think of engrossing all Commerce to themselves, while the System of Spain is to share it among all Nations. You know, by Experience, how your Merchants are treated and indulg'd, by the positive Order of his Catholick Majesty, in our Ports.

I wou'd say more to you, Messieurs, upon what has happen'd to the Prince de Cellamare at Paris, and to the Duke of St. Aignan at Madrid, if the Time had serv'd to have inform'd me of his Majesty's Sentiments. I cannot do as the Ministers of France and England, who receive Instructions from their Courts twice a Week; and who, when they want an Answer to solicit and precipitate a Resolution here, can immediately dispatch Couriers to fetch it. I have therefore Reason to beseech you you'd give me Time; because 'tis not enough to hear one Side, but both; and 'tis a very sensible and political Maxim, that *Melius est peccare in tempore quam in scriptura*. And I hope it will not be long but you will have Explanations upon those two Events, very different from what are pretended to be given you on the other Hand.

I hereto annex the Translation of a Letter, which his Emigency the Cardinal Alberoni has done me the Honour to write to me about the Duke of Ormond, by which it appears true, at last, that he was come to Spain. I most humbly intreat you to make your Reflections thereupon; but in Order to know a Picture well, it must be set in a good Light.

It was sole my Memorial with assuring you of my Respect and conjuring you to think on the Friendship of the King of Spain, which will be firm and inviolable, to preserve the same your selves, that I may not always be tir'd with telling you of what Im-

portance it ought to be to you; Consider, that your Cause; consider the Opposition of so many Princes, and States who groan under the Austrian Yoke, and whose Slavery will be compleated by the Project of the Allies; consider, in a Word, That if by your Firmness on the one Hand, and your good Offices on the other, a Peace may be obtain'd, which the King of Spain secretly desires; all the rest of Europe, seeing your Conduct, will, to reward you for so great a Work, heap Honours and Blessings upon you; and that all Potentates, whether the Republick, if it gains its Views of procuring and establishing a universal Tranquillity.

Translation of a Letter of December 19, 1718, from Cardinal Alberoni to the Marquess Beretti Landi, the Spanish Ambassador at the Hague.

S I R,

THE Duke of Ormond having resided in the Neighbourhood of Paris, from June 'till the End of October, was advertis'd, on the Part of the Regent, that the Earl of Stair made pressing Instances to him that he might not be tolerated in France; upon which the Duke resolv'd to come into Spain. His Royal Highness being inform'd of his Design, order'd he should be stopp'd at a Place on the Frontiers where he might be found. Nevertheless, 'tis certain, that several Officers and Persons known were stopp'd, the Gates were freely open'd, and the said Duke of Ormond was suffer'd to pass without the least Resistance, tho' there were sufficient Tokens to know him, because he travel'd Post, with two Berlins, two Calashes, and some Horsemen.

His Majesty being inform'd that the said Duke was enter'd Spain, and turning towards Madrid, made him stop his Journey, and stay 40 Leagues from Court, the King not thinking it convenient to deal otherwise; that he might not violate the Laws of Hospitality which even the Duke Regent observ'd so long, tho' a Friend and an Ally to the King of England. Nevertheless, 'tis visible that the Departure of the Duke of Ormond from France, permitted by the Regent, and the Governors on the Frontiers, is one of the artifices of the Ministrie of Paris and London, invented to make a Crime of it in Spain, and to exasperate the Mind.

Now. I thought my self oblig'd to inform your Excellency of the Reality of this Event, that you may make a good Use of it. I am, &c.

On the 22nd of December the new Convention of the Execution of the Barriere Treaty was sign'd at the Hague, by the Marquess de Prié on the Part of the Emperor, by Earl Ologan on the Part of his Britannick Majesty, and by the deputies of the States-General: And on the 3d of Jan^y the said States having resolv'd to accede to the Treaty commonly call'd the Quadruple Alliance, they the same Day, in a Conference with the British and French Ministers communicated to them their said Resolution and gave them Copies of it.



SPAIN.

HIS Catholick Majesty being inform'd that the French Merchants, who were settled in his Dominions, were preparing to remove with their Effects, and being desirous to ingratiate himself yet more and more with the French Nation, thought fit to publish the following Declaration.

HAVING receiv'd Advice from several Places that evil-dispos'd Persons have for some Time past affected to insinuate with Artifice to the French Merchants who reside in my Dominions, that it was proper for them to remove their Effects as soon as may be, desiring without Doubt thereby to let them understand, that there would be a speedy Rupture between France and Spain. 'Tis easy to see that the Design of the Authors of those Insinuations, is to disturb the Peace and break the strict Union which Divine Providence, by an admirable Disposition, has preserv'd between the two Nations, not only for their own Felicity, but also for the Tranquillity of all Europe. Desiring to let the publick know the Sincerity of my Intentions, and to give Assurance to the French Merchants against these Alarms, so unfortunately inspir'd, I declare to them, by these Presents, That their Effects shall not be confiscated, or sequestered, in any Part

Part of my Dominions wheresoever they be, That, contrary to my Expectation, I should be forc'd to make War, I give them my Royal Word, that I will grant them a whole Year's Time to withdraw their Effects, of what Nature soever they be, to what place they please; and that Term being expir'd, if any amongst them chuse to remain in my Kingdoms, I promise to let them live there with all the Tranquillity and all the Security they can desire, and even to contribute as much as possible to their Advantages: As also all *French* Merchants or others, who now, or after a Rupture that may happen, or at any other Time, shall come to settle in my Dominions. I have the more Reason to receive and treat them with Beneſicence, because, I perswade myself, that when even a War is declar'd against me, they will never impute to me an Event so little expected, and Consequences so unhappy to a Nation, to whom I am so dear, and whom I ought, for so many Reasons, tenderly to cherish; it being not possible, that I should ever forget that I was born in its Bosom, that I am oblig'd to it for my Education, and that in Conjunction with my faithful Subjects they have generously shed their Blood for maintaining me on the Throne of Spain. Given at the Castle of Pardo, October 9, 1718.

I. THE KING.

Don Miguel Fernando Duran.

On the 8th of November, the *Sieur* Ham, Secretary of the States-General at Madrid, receiv'd the following Declaration from Cardinal Alberoni.

INASMUCH as his Catholick Majesty constantly entertains Desires and Sentiments for the Tranquillity of Europe, and contributes, on his Part, all the possible Means that consist with his Honour and Royal Dignity for establishing a just Equilibrium between the respective Potentates; for securing the Liberty and Tranquillity of Italy, he approves of what the Marquess de Beretti Landi, his Embassador in Holland, has declar'd to the States-General: And his Majesty is ready to concur, and generously consent to all the good Offices, which may agree with the Circumstances express'd in the said Declaration.

But if the *States-General* yield to the *Instances* and *Solicitations* of the *Potentates* who have form'd the *Project* of engaging them into the *Quadruple Alliance*, or if they conform to the *Tenour* thereof, in coming into the *Conditions* of that *Project*, his *Catholick Majesty* will not abide by what he has offer'd them, which is what he shall otherwise accept with *Pleasure* the *Mediation* of the *Republick*. Neither will it consist with his *Majesty's Dignity* to admit the *Embassador* whom *Holland* had design'd for the *Court* of *Spain*; these *Steps* being incompatible, and opposite to one another, and contrary to the ardent *Desires* of his *Majesty*, to maintain the most perfect *Union* and *Amity* with the *Republick*.

On the 12th of *December*, the *Marquess de Grimaldo*, *Secretary of State*, was sent to the *Duke of St. Aignan*, *Embassador of France*, to whom he deliver'd an *Order* from the *King*, requiring him to leave *Madrid* in 24 *Hours*, and to depart the *Spanish Dominions* in 12 *Days*: The *Embassador* receiv'd this *Message* with all the *Respect* due to his *Catholick Majesty*; but it being late at Night when this *Command* was signify'd to him, he desir'd the *Marquess de Grimaldo* to request the *King* to grant him 'till the next *Day*, promising to leave *Madrid* in 24 *Hours*: But at Seven the next *Morning*, the *House* of the *Embassador* was invell'd by a *Detachment* of the *Life-Guards*, commanded by *Mr. Connaught*, an *Irish Gentleman*, who having plac'd *Centinels* at all the *Doors* of the *Apartments*, went into the *Duke's Bed-chamber*, and having caus'd him and his *Dutcheſs* to rise out of their *Bed*, and dress themselves with *Precipitation*, conducted them out of the *City* with his *Detachment*, excusing this rough *Usage* upon the strictness of the *Orders* had been given him, which import'd, that he should seize the *Person* of the *Duke*, and (if he would not willingly) oblige him by *Force* to quit *Madrid*, without suffering any one to speak to him.

The other *Affairs of Spain* are spoken of in the *Articles* from *France* and *Holland*.

These are the most remarkable *Transactions* in foreign *Countries*. The *Siege of Melazzo* continues, and both the *Germans* and *Spaniards* receive *Reinforcements* and *Supplies* from *Time* to *Time*. The *Troops* the *Czar* continue still from *Poland*, but we are told

now that they have Positive Orders to evacuate that Kingdom.



I R E L A N D

THE following Proclamation, relating to the late Duke of Ormond, was publish'd on the 29th of January.

By the Lords Justices and Council of Ireland, a Proclamation.

Will. Dublin.

Wm. Conolly.

WHEREAS James Butler, late Duke of Ormond, by Act of Parliament made in Great Britain, stands attainted of High Treason; and by an Act of Parliament pass'd in this Kingdom, in the 2d Year of his Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An Act for extinguishing the Regalities and Liberties of the County of Tipperary, and Cross Tipperary, commonly call'd the County Palatine of Tipperary, and for Vesting in his Majesty the Estate of James Butler, commonly call'd James Duke of Ormond, for giving a Reward of ten thousand Pounds to any Person who shall seize or secure him, in Case he shall attempt to land in this Kingdom*, It is among other Things enacted, That the Vice-Treasurer or Vice-Treasurers of this Kingdom, or his or their Deputy or Deputies for the Time being, shall and are hereby authoriz'd and requir'd, out of any Money granted or to be granted by Parliament for the Use of the Publick, forthwith to Issue and pay the Sum of ten thousand Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall seize or secure, Alive or Dead, the Person of the said James Butler, late Duke of Ormond, in Case he shall land or attempt to land in this Kingdom.

And whereas it hath been signify'd to us, by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, That his Majesty hath receiv'd an Account, that the said James Butler, late Duke of Ormond, after a short Stay at Madrid, did embark from Spain, with Intent to land in this Kingdom, in order to excite a Rebellion therein.

And whereas it is reasonable to believe, that the said James Butler, late Duke of Ormond, is as u-

ally landed, or shall attempt to land in this Kingdom.

• We the Lords Justices and Council, to the Intent that all his Majesty's Subjects may have Notice of the Encouragement given by the said Act of Parliament, and that due Care may be taken for the seizing and apprehending of the said *James Butler*, late Duke of *Ormond*, have thought fit to issue this our Proclamation, and do hereby command all his Majesty's Officers, Civil and Military, and all other his Majesty's loving Subjects, to make diligent Search for, and use their utmost Endeavours to seize or secure, Alive or Dead, the said *James Butler*, late Duke of *Ormond*, if landed in this Kingdom, or attempting to land therein, and when he shall be so seiz'd or secur'd, to give Notice thereof immediately to the chief Governor or Governors of this Kingdom for the Time being.

And we do hereby declare, That in Case the said *James Butler*, late Duke of *Ormond*, shall be seiz'd or secur'd as aforesaid, that the necessary Orders shall be given for the immediate Payment of the said Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds directed by the said Act of Parliament, to be paid as aforesaid, to the Person or Persons who shall seize or secure him.

And we do hereby strictly charge and command all his Majesty's loving Subjects, that they do in no wise knowingly receive, harbour, comfort, relieve, aid, or conceal the said *James Butler*, late Duke of *Ormond*; and in Case any Person or Persons shall be found to offend therein, we do hereby publish and declare, That such Person or Persons shall be proceeded against as Persons guilty of High Treason. • Given at the Council Chamber in Dublin, the 19th of January, 1718. •

Edw. Tuam, Ferrard, C. S. Mountjoy, Tyrawly, Newtown, Tulla, Moore, Southwell, Wm. Whitshed, Joh. Forster, Jeff. Gilbert, Frederick Hamilton, Ben. Parry, James Tynte, Richard Tighe.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

GREAT

G R E A T B R I T A I N.

Proceedings of the Parliament continu'd.

ON the first of December, Mr. Boscarew presented to the House of Commons, a Bill to improve the Commissioners appointed to put in Execution the Act for Building fifty new Churches, in London and Westminster, to direct the Parish Church of St. Martin in the Fields, in the County of Middlesex, to be rebuilt, instead of one of the said fifty new Churches: Which Bill was receiv'd, read the first, and order'd to be read a second Time. After this, two Petitions, praying, That the Churches of St. Botolph without Aldersgate, London, and of St. Katharine Coleman, and Fenchurch-street, in the City of London, might in like Manner be rebuilt, were read and referr'd to a Committee. Then, in a grand Committee, the Commons made a farther Progress in the Land-Tax Bill, and the next Day went through it, and made several Amendments thereto, which being reported on Thursday the 4th, were agreed to by the House, and the said Bill order'd to be ingross'd.

Dec. 3. The Commons, in a Committee of the whole House, consider'd farther of the Supply, and came to the following Resolutions, viz. 1st. That so much Money be rais'd as will be sufficient to redeem at Lady-Day, 1719, the Annuity of 76,830 l. 15 s. payable to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, for circulating and exchanging Exchequer Bills, pursuant to the Notice which the Speaker of the House of Commons, did, on Saturday the 15th of March, 1717, signifying in Writing to the said Governor and Company, in Obedience to an Order of the House of the 10th Day of the said Month. 2dly, That a Sum not exceeding 500,000 l. be granted to his Majesty, towards raising the Moneys for redeeming the Annuity of 76,830 l. 15 s. payable to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, for circulating and exchanging Exchequer Bills. These Resolutions were the next Day reported by Mr. Farrer, and agreed to by the House; and the same Day a Petition for Rebuilding the Parish-Church of St. Dunstons upon London Wall, instead of one of the fifty new Churches, was read, and referr'd to a Committee; and

then

then the Commons, in a Committee of the whole House went through the Malt Bill.

Dec. 4. A Complaint being made to the House of two printed Pamphlets, the one intitled *The Exeter Mercury or Weekly Intelligence*, from Tuesday November 25, to Friday November 28, 1718. Printed and sold by George Bishop. The other intitled, *The Protestant Mercury or the Exeter Post-Boy*, Friday November the 28th. Printed by Jos. Blifs, 1718, wherein the Resolutions and Proceedings of this House were falsely represented, and printed in Contempt of the Order, and in Breach of the Privilege of the House, the said Pamphlets were deliver'd in at the Table; and several Paragraphs out of them being read, the said George Bishop and Jos. Blifs, were order'd to attend the House upon the 19th.

Dec. 6. Sir Willoughby Hichman presented to the Commons *A Bill for the more effectual Relief of such Children as are left by their Parents upon the Charge of the Parish*, which was receiv'd, read the first, and order'd to be read a second Time. After this, a Petition for Re-building the Parish Church of St. Mary Islington, within the Weekly Bills of Mortality, instead of one of the fifty new Churches, was read, and refer'd to a Committee: and then Mr. Farrer reported the Amendments made by the Grand Committee, to the Malt-Bill, which were agreed to, and the said Bill, with the Amendments, order'd to be engross'd.

Dec. 8. Mr. Farrez reported several Resolutions from the Committee appointed to enquire what Laws were expir'd or near expiring, and to report which of them were fit to be reviv'd or continu'd: Which Resolutions were read, and agreed to by the House, as follows: viz. That the Act made in the 8th Year of the late Queen Anne, intitled, *An Act to regulate the Price and Assize of Bread*, which was to continue for three Years, and from thence, to the End of the next Session of Parliament; which Act was further continu'd by an Act made in the first Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George, and will expire at the End of this Session of Parliament, is fit to be continu'd. 2dly, That the Act for encouraging the Tobacco Trade; and 3dly, The Act for the better Encouragement of the making of Sait Cloth in Great Britain, are also fit to be continu'd: And a Bill in Pursuance of the said Resolutions. Then the Land-Tax Bill was

read

read the third Time, pass'd, and sent up to the Lords; as was also, the next Day, the Malt Bill.

Dec. 10. Mr. *Hampden* reported from the Committee of Privileges and Elections, the Matter as it appear'd to them, touching the Election for the City of *Litchfield*, and the Resolutions of the Committee thereupon, which were agreed to by the House as follows: viz. 1st, That the Right of Election for Citizens to serve in Parliament for the City of *Litchfield*, is in the Bailiffs, Magistrates, Freeholders of forty Shillings *per Annum*, and all that hold by Burgage Tenure, and in such Freemen only of the said City as are inrolled, paying Scot and Lot there. 2^{dly}, That *William Sneyd*, Esq; is not duly elected; and 3^{dly}, That *Walter Chetwynd*, Esq; is duly elected a Citizen to serve in this present Parliament for the said City.

Dec. 11. Mr. *Lowther* reported from the Committee appointed to consider of proper Methods for removing the Difficulty the Members had to come to and go from this House, by Reason of the frequent Stops in the narrow Passages leading thereto, the Matter as it appear'd to them, viz. resolv'd, That an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleas'd to give such Directions, that the Gates in the Passage between *Whitehall* and *King-street, Westminster*, may either be taken down or made wider, as his Majesty in his great Wisdom, should think proper: Whereupon the said Address was order'd to be presented to his Majesty.

Dec. 12. The Commons, in a Committee of the whole House, consider'd farther of Ways and Means to raise the Supply: And the same Day, the King being come to the House of Peers, with the usual State and Solemnity, and the Commons being sent for up, and attending, his Majesty gave the Royal Assent to the two Money Bills, viz. An Act for granting to his Majesty an Aid by a Land-Tax to be rais'd in Great Britain, for the Service of the Year 1719.

An Act for continuing the Duties on Malt, Mum, Cyder &c.

Thus in the Compass of one Month the Land-Tax and Malt Bills were presented, and both pass'd in one Day; a Dispatch not to be parallell'd in all the Parliaments since the Revolution.