THE

Free Briton Extraordinary:

Or, A SHORT

REVIEW

OF THE

BRITISH AFFAIRS.

In anſwer to

A PAMPHLET Intitled,

A Short View, with Remarks on the Treaty of Seville, &c. Printed for R. FRANCKLIN.

By *FRANCIS WALSINGHAM,*
Of the *Inner-Temple, Eſq;*

Ille & nefaſto te poſuit die
Quicumque primum, & ſacrilega manu
Produxit: ——
Et quicquid uſquam concipitur nefas
Tractavit. —— HOR.

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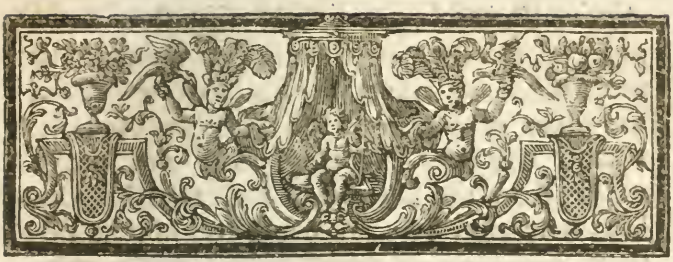

THE

FREE BRITON

EXTRAORDINARY, *&c.*

A PAMPHLET having lately been publiſhed by Mr. *Franck-lin*, entitled, *A ſhort View of the State of our Affairs*, &c. the Intention of which having profeſſedly exploded the preſent TREATY of SEVILLE, it cannot be improper or unſeaſonable to examine the

Nature and Tendency of this Attempt, ſo formidable in its Deſigns, ſo oſtentatious in its Manner. It is given us as an *Antidote to Poiſon*, it is offer'd againſt a Pamphlet in Defence of this Treaty; and truly the Author, whatever he thinks to be Poiſon, has given us a very ſtrong Doſe to expel it. I wiſh that the Remedy may not prove worſe than the Diſeaſe; I wiſh that his violent Attempt, like all other venomous Potions, may loſe its Effect by its being overcharged. In the mean Time it falls to my Province to ſet theſe Affairs in a more open and impartial Light.

This *Writer* takes his View from the Year 1724, when *Great-Britain*, as the King then expreſſed it, had *Peace with* ALL *Powers abroad*; when We were in particular ſo far from any Conteſts and Diſputes with the *Emperor* or *Spain*, that We were made *Mediators* between them at *Cambray* conjunctly with the Miniſters of *France*.

And now comes the Point of Enquiry, what alter'd this happy Situation, what Motives induc'd the moſt wonderful Union of *Germany* and *Spain*; wherein this *incomparable Author* reverſes Mr. *Addiſon*'s Story of the *Mountebank*. He ſets up for a *Zany* to the Writer of the *Craftſman*, and avers that *whatever he has ſaid* on this Subject *is*

ture.

true. I think that this *Child* of a *Remarker* has made a moſt wretched Improvement of a ſcandalous Quackery. The *Merry-Andrew* ſhould rather have called upon the *Charlatan* himſelf to aver that his Aſſertions are true, eſpecially conſidering the *Zany* has never the *Doctor*'s Authority or Gravity. I hope he will make a little better Application of his Stories next Time.

His Allegations make up in this Pamphlet what in Logick we call the *Petitio Principii.* He begs the main Queſtion, upon which he has founded all his Arguments, nay, he arrogates the Judgment to the Parties, and makes the *Diſputant* himſelf *Arbiter* of the Debate. *But theſe*, in his own becoming Language, * *are* Poſtulata, *which we are obliged, and every* good Patriot *will be ready to grant, for the Juſtification of thoſe Meaſures* our Enemies *purſued during ſeveral Years paſt*

The fundamental Premiſes are theſe: The *Craftſman* laſt Winter laid down certain Cauſes as the Motives of thoſe Treaties. The *Remarker* comes now, and ſays, *my Father ſaid true.* Hence the Nation muſt ſwallow by Wholeſale all the haſty Aſſertions and unſupported Propoſitions which

* See Remarks, p. 6. par. 1.

fell

fell from *that Author* laſt Seaſon. I take it, ſays this *dutiful Infant*, my Father has *demonſtratively proved*——What?——Why you ſhall preſently ſee:

That ſending back the *Infanta* was the immediate Cauſe with relation to *France* which threw *Spain* upon the *Emperor*; that our Refuſal to accept the *ſole* Mediation between *Spain* and the Emperor, *even after their Accommodation*, was the immediate Cauſe with relation to *Great Britain*. As to the Affair of *Gibraltar*, which was formerly moſt flatly denied as a Motive of *Spain* in the Treaty of *Vienna*, yet now it is allowed, though ſomething diſtanc'd in his View; *it Might be a Cauſe*, and *perhaps it Had ſome remote* Influence on the *Spaniards*. But the *Writer*, tho' *doubtful* in the *Spaniſh* Intention to recover that Fortreſs, *is certain* of a *Britiſh* Engagement to reſtore it; which in itſelf would be an Evidence of the *Spaniſh* Intention, for unleſs they had expected it of us, we could never have promiſed to ſurrender it. Thus among his *innumerable glaring Contradictions* this *Writer* has expreſly contradicted the Tenor of a vaſt many Papers in the *Craftſman*, and what is more notorious, *contradicted himſelf* in the Terms of his *own* Aſſeveration.

However,

However, he is ſo very condeſcending to allow that the *Emperor* might have his PRIVATE REASONS for accepting the Offer from *Spain*, with all its advatagious Terms; a Conceſſion not to be overlooked, becauſe, immediately after it has ſerved his Turn, he endeavours to overthrow it, and *again contradicts* himſelf by an egregious *Recantation*.

He inſiſts that the Foundation of the *Hanover Treaty* was merely the pretended *ſecret offenſive* Treaty of *Vienna*, alledg'd to contain, Firſt, Extraordinary Engagements to ſupport and extend the Commerce of *Oſtend*. Secondly, an Engagement to recover *Gibraltar*. Thirdly, A Stipulation *in Terrorem*, to aſſiſt the *Pretender*. And, Fourthly, The Marriage of *Don Carlos* with the eldeſt Arch-ducheſs of *Auſtria*.

The Emperor's PRIVATE REASONS are thus ſpecified in the *Oſtend* Company, and the intended Marriage of his Daughter.

Now attend to the remarkable *Contradictions* and *Inconſiſtencies* of this *Remarker*.

In pag. 4. par. 3. he admits the Emperor might have ſome PRIVATE REASONS; which is

is ſpoken in reference to the laſt Winter's Controverſy, and can only intend the *private Reaſons* alledged by the Writers for the Government; for what other private Reaſons could he poſſibly mean? Now in pag. 6. par. 2. he denies, that the Engagements for *that Company*, or for the *Archduchess* were ever yet brought to Light, or that there was the leaſt Proof of them; Aſſertions, which, as they are moſt naturally and obviouſly now underſtood, do abſolutely *claſh* with and *confound* each other.

He very confidently aſſerts, we had no pretence of Exception to the *publick* Treaties of *Vienna*, either thoſe of *Peace* or *Commerce*; on the contrary, he holds, we might have *ſafely acceded* to both *; yet he certainly knows, that when a common Share in the *Oſtend* Company was *penal* even to a *private Merchant* by Act of Parliament, conſequently the *Britiſh* Acceſſion to a Treaty of *Commerce*, confirming that pernicious Company, would undeniably have incurr'd an *Impeachment* againſt every Miniſter adviſing ſo *unlawful* a Procedure: Such is the *Candour* of his ſhallow Remarks, his empty Obſervations.

He modeſtly ſneers at *Poſtulata* FOR the Miniſtry, tho' admitted by himſelf in ſup-

* Pag. 6. lin. 8—9.

port

port of his own Propoſitions, and advances many others AGAINST thoſe Miniſters, tho' never admitted at all. Any Premiſes for the Government are not to be *prov'd*; all againſt that Government are not to be *diſputed*. He ſcoffs at the Writer of the *Enquiry* for advancing the *ſecret* Stipulations at *Vienna*, to recover *Gibraltar* from *Britain*; yet in the ſame Breath, without the leaſt Appearance of Proof, moſt *arbitrarily* and *unreaſonably* inſiſts on a TREATY, a *ſecret Convention* at *Madrid*, wherein *Britain* is pretended to have engaged the Reſtitution of *Gibraltar*. The Author of the *Enquiry*, he ſays, is as *poſitive* about the *Vienna* private *Treaty*, as if he had been preſent at the *Signing*: The Author of the *Remarks*, even whilſt he is thus wrangling, appears as *tenacious* of the pretended *Madrid* Treaty, as if he had been preſent at the *Sealing*. So *conſiſtent* we find him with himſelf upon every Occaſion.

He lays very great Streſs on the Emperor's *Imperial Word* in *denying* his *ſecret* Engagements. Do Princes then never diſown what they really intended? Did the World ever doubt the Deſigns of the *late* Court of *Sweden*, when *Gyllenborg*'s Letters were ſeiz'd, although the Conſpiracy was flatly deny'd by his Principals. In ſhort, the Thing muſt reſt on other Evidence than a

partial Averment, a mere political Parole. His awkward Buffoonery on *Popiſh* Princes adhering to *Proteſtant* Councils, is unworthy of Animadverſion, were it not to obſerve, that what the *Italians* have phras'd the *Raggione di ſtato*, is always what Princes conſider in their Leagues, and not the *Religion* of Countries.

He denies that the Emperor aſſiſted the Siege of *Gibraltar*. Indeed I don't readily perceive how he could; nor was it in his *Imperial Majeſty*'s Power to tranſport his Armies into *Spain*; for he could not carry Troops through the Air. However he could have given us Diverſion, had he invaded the *King* of *Great-Britain*'s Dominions in *Germany*; and it was never imagin'd his Engagements had any other Import, it being the utmoſt that Princes can engage with their Allies, to make War in their Behalf where they have beſt Opportunity. That this was very much apprehended, the Applications to Parliament evince; That it was prevented, the Zeal of a *Britiſh* Houſe of Commons, may account for: Nor ſhould we omit that the *Emperor*'s Good-will to us, during the Siege of *Gibraltar*, was inſtanc'd by a ſolemn Prohibition of the *Britiſh* Manufactures, thro' all the *Hereditary* Countries, proclaim'd by Sound of Trumpet.

He

He juſtifies the well-known *clandeſtine* Concluſion of the Treaties at *Vienna.* It ſeems that we ſet the Example, by concluding private Treaties at *Madrid,* during the Mediation. But though we allow him a moſt forward and vigilant Advocate; though we doubt not his Zeal to the Cauſe of his illuſtrious Client; yet till it appears that the *Emperor* ever relented or proteſted againſt ſuch a Convention, I think there is no poſſible Foundation for ſuch random Aſſertions; which if tolerably well grounded, would undoubtedly have been aſſign'd as an acceſſary Cauſe to the Treaty of *Vienna*, a Point which hitherto has not been advanced, nor can ever be juſtly allow'd.

At length he finds his *Poſt* untenable, his Charge on the Councils of his Country far from plauſible; he therefore has decently departed from the Cauſes of thoſe Treaties, and leaves them as he found them, *unprov'd, unexplain'd,* or *illuſtrated.* Hear him now treat the Conſequences after the very ſame Manner.

And here * ſays he, I think *there can be no Room to* DISPUTE, whatever might be the Motives of the Treaty at *Vienna,* or its ſe-

* See P. 7. Part 2.

cret Designs, that the Conclusion of a Treaty with *France* was CERTAINLY the Occasion of widening our Differences.

For whose Service these rare *Postulata* are thus to be admitted is easy to guess; an Assertion is offer'd, and what follows, *it is certain it is not to be disputed.* Did ever Man talk in this *insolent*, this *arbitrary* Strain, who requir'd every Proof from a Ministry? This is not the common Demand; it is more than was ever presum'd; it is *absolute Infallibility*; *there can be no Room for Dispute* on the Point he propounds: And why not? Is it incapable of Proof? Then why should we receive it? But this Conduct is far from surprising the World; they are too well acquainted with the Characters concern'd.

Thus it appears without *any Proof*, for that is *denied* us; without any Probability, for that we can no where perceive, that *merely* our Posture of Defence, a defensive Alliance, founded on our long-establish'd Friendship with that Power most able to defend us, without any Stipulation to the Damage of *Spain*, one single Agreement against its Advantage; that This widen'd the Breach, heighten'd Animosities, added Fuel to Fire, and stimulated Wrath in the *Spaniards*.

We

We come now to Facts which were ſubſequent to the Convention ſo much canvaſs'd. The Evils of theſe are made Effects of the *Hanover* Treaty; no Injuſtice was done us by the Treaty of *Vienna*, no Injury by the *Oſtend* Company it ſelf, though declar'd againſt by a penal Statute, a very ſolemn Act of Parliament: Such is the Equity of our own Patriots. They *aſſert* all this in *Reproach* to their Country, yet they will not *prove* it in Juſtice to that Country. *It is certain it is not to be diſputed*, and thus they advance, infer, and conclude.

He makes the *Blockade* of *Portobello* by our Squadrons, the only Inducement with his *Catholick Majeſty*, that made him lay Siege to *Gibraltar*. Does he forget what a Streſs Mr. *D'Anvers* has laid on Lord *Harrington*'s Memorials at *Madrid*, in Behalf of the *Britiſh* Merchants? Does he forget the Reſolutions of Parliament, that they had many Years ſuffer'd unprecedented Depredations; and yet he thinks *Britain* was the Aggreſſor in the Rupture, the only *provoking* Party. So ſtrict is his Juſtice to the *ſuffering Trading Intereſt*, ſo candid in all his Conſtructions, that even a *Fleet fitted*, profeſſedly equipp'd in Behalf of the Commerce of this Kingdom, and to enforce a Reſtitution of our Loſſes, is cenſured as that very Act of Hoſtility

ſtility, which juſtifies every Procedure againſt us, and drew every Miſchief on our Heads. But for this I refer him to the Merchants, who will certainly thank him for his gracious Diſcovery; and to all the People of *England* who value *Gibraltar*; ſince had all the Treaſure been return'd to *Europe* in Time, which this Fleet in great part prevented, the Siege might have been much more vigorous, and thereby the Conſequence fatal to this Nation.

His wretched Sophiſtries on *perſuading* the Galleons, are *purloin'd* from the *Craftſman* of laſt Winter. Our Admirals, ſays he, had ever memorable Orders, even to uſe *perſuaſive Force*. He knows it was otherwiſe; they had Orders to try *perſuaſive* Means firſt, to prevent any Loſs of the Treaſure by ſinking the Ships, and if this fail'd, then to employ even all their Force. But his Objections are in general ſo trifling, that if we were not fully reſolv'd to obviate the minuteſt Exception, we ſhould paſs over with Contempt ſuch *pitiful* and *trite* Inſinuations.

He arrogantly endeavours to impoſe this Opinion, on *France* and the *Britiſh* Allies, that we were the *Aggreſſors* againſt *Spain*. He thinks they view'd it in the ſame Light with himſelf; he ſays they did not ſtir a Step as they had ſtipulated, and as we were told they had promis'd to do: They obſerv'd

ſerv'd an exact Neutrality *almoſt*, and as the *Emperor* did not aſſiſt *Spain*, ſo neither did *they* aſſiſt *us*, as we were told they were ready to do.

On this I obſerve it was not from an Indifference to our Quarrels, but from a View to reconcile them, and this with our own *voluntary* Concurrence. Had *France* employed her *Arms*, ſhe could not have interpoſed a *Mediation*. *Spain* would little have regarded *Rouſſillon*, provided they had carried *Gibraltar*; and had *France* begun the *Land War*, the *Emperor* might have continued it, inſomuch that the *French* muſt have turned another Way in their own Defence. To avoid *this Univerſality* of Blood and Confuſion, to interpoſe all the amicable Means of Addreſs and Negotiation, to put the *more ſpeedy* Concluſion to the Troubles of *Europe*, and to reſtore Harmony among all the Powers, our Allies were thus *neutral*, tho' not *unprepared*; for *France* and *Holland* both kept numerous and expenſive Armies on Foot, enliſted for our very Defence, and which would have been warmly engaged the Moment we had made the Demand, according to their conſtant Declarations.

He ſays, our Expeditions were looked on as Hoſtilities by the *Spaniards*, and produced a *Return* of Hoſtilities upon us, yet they did

did not anſwer Ends which further Hoſtilities promis'd; they opened a Diſpute whether we were not the Aggreſſors, they gave our Allies an Occaſion to with-hold their Aſſiſtance; we had the Misfortune to do enough to provoke the *Spaniards* to Hoſtilities, but not enough to bring them to a Compliance with our Terms.

I anſwer to this, that the End of any further Hoſtilities would have been *Univerſal Confuſion*; that the Diſpute concerning the *Aggreſſor* was entirely confined to the *Paper Politicians* in *London*, that *France* or the *Allies*, could never with-hold an Aſſiſtance which was never demanded; nay on the contrary, rather *declined* by this Nation as unneceſſary in that Conjuncture. And though the *Spaniards* went on with Hoſtilities, yet that we did bring them to Compliance is moſt certain, Witneſs the *Preliminary Articles*, of which I would be glad to know the Cauſe, if it was not the Succeſs of our Arms, and the Vigour of our faithful Allies.

Well, he owns there were *Preliminaries*, tho' of a moſt *myſterious* Nature, and without any *efficient* Cauſe. In the mean Time, to magnify our grievous Misfortunes, he helps out the pathetick Narration with a *palpable Falſhood*, and againſt all Knowledge and Certainty of Truth, he avers that our Ships

Ships were made *Prizes* in the BRITISH CHANNEL it ſelf.

He likewiſe is equally honeſt on the *National Debt*, which he repreſents in a *deplorable* Condition, tho' he knows the *Sinking Fund* improved ſome *Hundred Thouſand* Pounds *per Annum*, during theſe *four Years*, and conſequently ſome *Millions* of Debt were paid off. Indeed it muſt be own'd thoſe Debts and that Fund were under a common Diſadvantage from the Times; the former would have leſſened, and the latter have greatly increaſed in uninterrupted Peace: But had the War been more general, the Hoſtilities further extended, or longer continued, that important Fund would then have been *uſeleſs*, and thoſe burdenſome Debts would have been vaſtly more *weighty*, in regard we have never been yet at any thing near the Expence of a *general War*. We muſt therefore reflect on the Evils we eſcap'd, as well as on the Grievances we ſuffered.

He exaggerates much that the *Congreſs*, appointed in Virtue of the *Preliminaries*, was delay'd during *four Months* extraordinary. He complains we had no Miniſter at *Madrid:* He ſhould have obſerved *Spain* had none at *London*. And it ſeems he has been told, *that Miniſter* who had got over

all remaining Difficulties, namely Count *Rottembourg*, did not act his Part to our Satisfaction. This is very extraordinary; but *so he has been told* —— a sufficient Authority truly.

We are henceforth to wait on this *Writer* from the Congress to the Treaty. He makes it an Exception to the Conduct of *Great Britain*, that the Course of Negotiation was attended with various Schemes, Projects, and Conventions. Did he ever know a general Negotiation that was not? Did the Peace of *Utrecht* take Place in less Time, or succeed upon less Sollicitations? The same great Abilities which were employ'd to conduct that Affair are worthily engaged to overthrow this. I hope THEY will be pleased to allow the same Measures are just at this Time as they thought to be equal at that Time, if possibly they happen to meet with a Parity of Accidents. I remember the Treaties of *Utrecht* were so long negotiating, that one was concluded in *June* and the other in *December*; not to mention the numberless Proposals and Projects, Preliminaries and Acts, which preceded the final Conclusion; wherein too the EMPEROR was totally excluded, and that not in so fair a Condition as under the present Circumstance, *viz.* our not being solemnly restrained by our Contracts from concluding

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an exclusive Treaty, but under the aggravated Injury, a Breach of Faith and of the Grand Alliance which expresly declared against a *separate Peace*, nay a *separate Negociation*. I wish, for the Honour of my Countrey, these Things were forgot; but since SOME are so ready to impose themselves upon us, and set up their Judgment as a Law to the Nation, I think it but just to remember their former Transactions, and the fatal Effect of their Opinions, when *those* were indeed an Authority.

Among other Projects he speaks to the PROVISIONAL TREATY, and is pleased to assert, it was far from giving general Satisfaction at Home. I would know by what Measure he regulates general Satisfaction. I am apprehensive if that Plan had been put to the Vote of the Multitude, the *unrepresented* Multitude, it might have been approved by a Majority of the *British* Nation. I had not said this on the Merits of *that*, because we have a *better* before us; but because he dogmatically asserted, as usual, his Judgment to be an Authority. Yet I, who despise every servile Attachment, every sordid implicit Belief, nor take any *Postulata* for granted without having proved them; nor even then, till I know the Opinion of Mankind, I shall equally disdain to be led by the Nose in this

to their ſolemn Stipulations. But however, admitting the leaſt Poſſibility of this, yet ſtill it muſt be in it ſelf of ſo private a Nature, it is a moral Impoſſibility it ſhould be known. And dare a Writer affront the Honeſty of Men ſo much, as to ſuggeſt this foul, this unſupported Allegation in View, to the Reproach, the Diſhonour, and Damage of the Government? As little Foundation can he have to aſſert that the Councils of *France* reſtrained our Hoſtilities; for if the *French* had thro' their Influence on *Britain*, and their Intereſt in uncertain Peace, ever gone ſo far as to controul our Exploits, our Armaments neceſſary to do our ſelves Juſtice; they would ſtill have continued to check us, and have longer poſtponed an Accommodation: For theſe Reaſons it cannot be Truth. He goes further, and aſſerts with *great Aſſurance*, as himſelf has phras'd it, that this Equipment was intended to prevent his *Daniſh Majeſty*'s Deſigns with Regard to the *Altena Company:* Whereas the whole World can bear Witneſs that Prince had not a *ſingle Ship* in Readineſs at *Altena;* that he could ill afford at any Time to ſupport that Project, at either Hazard or Expence; and that the diſtreſſed Condition of his People at Home, made him think much leſs of their Commerce Abroad; for whilſt his *very Capital* lay in Aſhes, what was he able to do for

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an *India* Company at *Altena*. Thus is the Sophiſtry of a Writer exploded, who erects Batteries in the Air to demoliſh an Adminiſtration.

He ſtyles the Misfortunes of our Nation during interrupted Peace *peculiar Misfortunes* *, and ſeems to lament that our Neighbours had not their Share in them. I cannot ſee how this could be otherwiſe from the Providence of human Wiſdom. I cannot ſee what we ſhould have gain'd by the Sufferings of our Neighbours and Allies. Will good Company in any Misfortunes make them really leſs, or feel the lighter? The Truth was, they had no *Gibraltar* for a Bone of Contention, which, as it was the View of every Hoſtility againſt us, did principally create the Miſunderſtanding with us. The Miniſtry might have been *impeached* had they given it up, and they are ſtill *condemned* for preſerving it. In ſhort, it is not Things, but Men, about which *ſuch Writers* are angry; and for this Miniſtry to ſave the Nation, is a greater Crime than for others to ruin it. Such is the Logick of this *Remarker*

We have purſued him thro' all his *Mean-*

* p. 13.

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ders, till we come to the *Treaty* itſelf, which he fears to be genuine, becauſe it is honourable and juſt. He would inſinuate Mr. *Buckley* may print a *falſe* Treaty, an *unfaithful* Copy: I might as well ſuppoſe Mr. *Francklin* would publiſh a *ſurreptitious* CRAFTSMAN. It appears to be authentick by his Majeſty's Speech: And as to any Articles ſuppreſs'd, it cannot be ſuppoſed the Government would conceal, on this Publication, the leaſt, the minuteſt Point, which was proper for the View of an *opening* Parliament.

Indeed I muſt admit with this *Writer*, that there may be ſome ſecret Stipulations concerning the Manner of introducing the *Spaniſh Troops* into the Garriſons: But theſe cannot poſſibly be inconſiſtent with the Tenor of the Treaty itſelf. They cannot relate to our Rights of Dominion, to the Reſtitution of our Loſſes, or indeed to any thing whatever, but the *Tuſcan Succeſſion*. That theſe Stipulations muſt be ſecret, the very Nature of any ſuch Deſign will evince; for ſhould the *oppoſing Party* be inform'd of the particular Manner whereby it is deſigned to be EFFECTED, we ſhould furniſh him with Money to prevent its Execution. As to the abovementioned Particulars, the *Rights*, the *Commerce*, and *Merchants*

Merchants of *Great Britain*, if any thing on this Head ſhould be concealed, the Miniſters would loſe all Advantage from the Sanction of Parliament, who cannot approve what they do not conſider, and whoſe Approbation to any thing they debate, will be wholly avoided by any thing private, which interferes with that which has been publiſhed: Therefore no *Miniſtry* will practiſe an Artifice ſo much to their own Diſadvantage.

Having obviated this, I perceive a vaſt deal of Invective thrown out againſt *Wire-drawing* Treaties; and yet, to my infinite Diverſion, find full *twenty* Pages of the Pamphlet employ'd in this ridiculous Work. Does the candid Author mean that he is to underſtand all our Treaties not only for himſelf, but for the Govenrment and the whole Nation? Or muſt no Man be ſuffered to explain them, but ſuch as He is pleaſed to appoint? I own with Him, *this Method of* Wire-drawing *Treaties*, which he condemns and yet practiſes, *in Oppoſition to their natural Conſtruction, and their true Deſigns, hath too much been practis'd of late for* CERTAIN PURPOSES; *and I confeſs that it hath always given me a ſtrong Suſpicion of* very bad Deſigns, *when there is any Occa-*

ſion for Explications *and* Refinements of *this Nature.* He admits the Commentators for Government would do their Country ſignal Service, could they *perſuade* foreign *Princes* to underſtand Treaties as they do. I beg leave to remind Him, that as every *good Engliſhman* ought to apprehend them, and every *good Miniſter* ought to enforce them, in that Senſe which appears to them moſt natural and beneficial; ſo, by a ſtrong Implication, He himſelf acknowledges, that it is an injurious Attempt to *perſuade* Foreign *Princes* to underſtand Treaties to our Diſadvantage, ſince he owns it makes us look'd upon as very *awkard Trickſters* abroad: And, as we ſhall ſpeedily detect Him in Attempts of this Nature, I leave it to him to husband this Merit as well as he can. In the mean Time All Perſons who think it their Duty, and whoſe Conſcience enjoyns them to approve any Treaty, as they have the ſame Right at leaſt, ſo they appear with the very ſame Credit, at worſt, whenever they explain them *for their Country*, as when he explains them againſt his Country. And as to his *inſolent* Expreſſions, his *dogmatical* Aſſertions with relation to this, I take leave to *retort* them, and decypher his *Meaning* in his *own* Phraſe. † *Pray*,

† p. 16.

Gentlemen,

Gentlemen, *read over these* Remarks, *and confess what an* infamous Peace *I have represented it*; *it is sufficient*, Gentlemen, *that I say it*, *and if you offer to be of another Opinion it is a plain Sign that you are no better than* Villains, *and* Fools *in your Hearts.*

He pretends * that this Treaty was justified before any Objections were rais'd against it. He denies that any Thing was printed against it before it was publish'd, however some Gentlemen might be appriz'd of some Articles. In this Manner does he wilfully advance a most *shocking* FALSHOOD against known Fact and self-evident Truth.

In the CRAFTSMAN it self, N° 180. *December* 13. 1729. there are these express Insinuations against it, that *this so long look'd for Peace leaves our* Foreign Acquisitions *in as uncertain and precarious a Condition as ever*; that *our* Merchants, *who have been plunder'd in* America *for several Years past*, *shall have only Reparation for the Damages which have been done during* a few preceding Months; that *even their Demands may be*

* P. 17.

frustrated by a Pretence of Illicite Trade; that *we are to have no Amends made us for the Depredations on our Shipping in* Europe, *but from the Time that those* Depredations ceas'd, and *all preceding ones are dropt by the fallacious Way of expressing the* Article *relating to it*; that *the Losses of the* SPANIARDS *are to be reckon'd from the Year* 1718. *and ours only from* 1727. *tho' they are known to commence from the Year* 1713. *&c.* which last was a *known design'd* Misrepresentation of the fifth and sixth Articles, fixing on a Fact therein mention'd, and *dishonestly* perverting the whole Tenor of both.

These are the Words of the *Craftsman* varied *only* in the Particle THAT for IF, made use of in every insinuative Method of Induction. And now will the Author of the *Remarks* stand unabash'd in the View of Heaven or Earth, after having so *sturdily* and *wickedly* denied, that Objections and Clamours were rais'd against the Treaty before it was publish'd? Which it plainly was not, till the seventh of *January* last, full *five* and *Twenty* Days after it had thus been *libell'd* and traduc'd. A *Face* so fortified out-goes the most *Corinthian* Composition; and yet a *Face* so fortified has

has already *been ſeen*, that after having betray'd its *Country* inhoſpitably, abus'd its *Aſyle*, and injur'd *forgiving* Mercy, ſet up for the *Patriot*, the *upright* and *moral Politician*. We therefore can never be ſurpriz'd at any future Proceedings, conſiſtent with a Character like this.

Conſcious of *ſcandalous* and almoſt *inſupportable* Licentiouſneſs, he put in a Hint that the LIBERTY of the *Preſs* is in Danger, from a Government who have look'd on it as ſacred, whilſt themſelves were ſo grievouſly inſulted and injur'd from that Quarter. I do not know a greater Virtue in Human Nature; and I hope they will always be ſo juſt, though ſuch *Libellers* as he may continually provoke them to be otherwiſe. He ſays he believes that *no other Men** will ever attempt to reſtrain it. I can ſhew him *one* that he is no ſuch Stranger to. Did not the *Craftſman* himſelf very lately demand a Proſecution againſt thoſe who were pleas'd to reflect on the *Lord's Anointed* of *Furnival's Inn*, the *Under-Sheriff* of *Middleſex*, for returning a Jury at his Tryal, whom they thought to be *partial* and *corrupt*,

* P. 18.

as

as our Libellers have done by the *Miniſters* and *Parliament* it ſelf?

The *Remarker* has the *Pride* and *Vanity*, after all the *Scurrilities* and *perſonal Reflections* he himſelf has broach'd, to be angry at a certain Obſervation on *him* and *his* Cabal, *That they are like thoſe Wretches that live upon* dangerous Coaſts, *whoſe profit ariſes from* Wrecks, *who ſubſiſt by the Misfortunes of their fellow Creatures, and whoſe* Affliction *is by Conſequence the happy Attendant of* Calm and Serenity. He thinks this Deſcription ſuits better a *great over-grown* wicked *Miniſter:* I think not: I conceive it is beſt ſuited to the *hungry* and rapacious *Crocodile Patriot*, who, with *Tears* in his Eyes and *Sighs* from his Heart, carries *Guile* in his Motions and *Murder* in his Aim; whilſt, with *ſpecious* and *inſidious* Profeſſions of *Love to Mankind*, he plots their Deſtruction and perpetrates their Ruin. Such a Creature as this, may delight in the *Storms*, and live upon the *Wreck* of his Country, whilſt its Calm and Serenity will prove his Affliction and Bane.

The *Writer* of this Pamphlet makes it an Argument, that ſome Gentlemen cannot be fond of a War, becauſe of the

the very high Taxes their private Eſtates muſt contribute; but the World, tho' ſufficiently acquainted with their extreme Parſimony, and their ſtrong Indiſpoſition to aſſiſt the Publick, will however moſt readily allow, that, to gratify Revenge againſt a Miniſtry whoſe Intereſt in this Peace is the ſame with their Country's, ſuch Men will be glad of a War, and ſubmit to Taxation, like the *Envious Man* in the *Fable*, who was *content to loſe* one Eye *that his Neighbour might loſe* both.

Thro' the whole Tenor of his Pamphlet the Writer condemns every Refuſal to act in Violation of Treaties: He with a *Sneer* calls the *Britiſh Faith* and Honour *mere Complaiſance to our good Allies*. But had we done what we declin'd in any of theſe Caſes, his Store of Scurrility and Reproach, inexhauſtible as it is, would hardly have ſuffic'd to have ſet forth his *high ſounding* Billingſgate *Impeachments*.

He is angry with the Gentlemen now in the Direction of the South Sea Company, becauſe they had ſeen and approv'd thoſe Parts of the Treaty relating to Trade and their Intereſts: He is incenſed

incenſed they ſhould be favour'd previouſly to other People with Informations *which chiefly concern themſelves :* He hopes that the Company, in whoſe Name they expreſs'd their Approbation, will ſhew their Reſentment upon the approaching Election, and exclude thoſe Directors who approved *a Treaty ſo much to the Advantage of every Proprietor.* But theſe weighty Points muſt be ſubmitted to their Conſideration.

The *conſcientious Pamphleteer* hath ſome Scruples and Qualms in Point of Morality, as whether it be *righteous* to diſpoſe of Dominions which are not our own. I am glad to ſee this *Sign* of *Grace* working in a *harden'd Sinner :* I hope he will ſhew us hereafter his *Faith* by his *Works :* At preſent I muſt own it is very ſurprizing to me, that one, who has practis'd *Breach of Faith* and *other Points* of heroick Virtue in the Publick Meaſures he advis'd; I ſay, it is ſurprizing He ſhould quarrel with *our Politicks* on Account of *Morality :* But he gives it up himſelf, and I have done with it.

When he comes to be told, that the *Tuſcan Succeſſion* is ſolemnly contracted and guaranteed to *Spain* by the *Quadruple*

ple Alliance, he aſks, What then; if that be bad in itſelf, will one falſe Step juſtify another? But how is it proved to be bad? Muſt we take That for granted, as well as his other *Poſtulata*? Can any Thing elſe preſerve the Quiet, the Neutrality of *Italy*, with the general Repoſe of the *Chriſtian World*, which, ſhould this Succeſſion remain unprovided for, would be involv'd in Confuſion whenever the reigning Poſſeſſors of *Parma* or *Tuſcany* die. He adds, why could we not depart from one Part as well as another? I anſwer, becauſe, both the Treaties of *London* and *Seville* being made with *Spain*, we could not poſſibly by the *latter* vacate any Thing in the *former*, without the Conſent of that Nation, and this we have undoubtedly obtain'd. I hope he will not think this a very hard *Poſtulatum*, eſpecially after having impoſed ſo many much harder upon us.

As to the *Emperor*, I am of Opinion he was not a *Principal*, but rather a *concurring* Party in the *Quadruple Alliance*. He cannot alledge that he did not conſent to this Succeſſion, becauſe many Acts and Treaties have been executed by him to that End: Nor can any Variation, ſuch as this in the Garriſons which he deſign'd

ſhould effect it, a Variation only in the Country from whence the Soldiers and the Pay muſt come, defeat his *Imperial Majeſty*'s Intentions that the *Spaniſh Succeſſion* ſhould take Place in thoſe Dominions: I hope therefore he will not oppoſe it. I am ſure I cannot approve the leaſt Diſreſpect to ſo great a Prince, even tho' he ſhould be our *Enemy*, any more than I can juſtify the *Craftſman*'s Abuſe of that auguſt Monarch when he was like to be our *Friend*. Whatever ſome *Proſtitute Pens* may have offer'd, tho' I am ſure it was never approved or encourag'd by the Adminiſtration; yet I cannot ſee any Irreverence or Contempt of the *Emperor* in the Pamphlet, entitled, *Obſervations on the Treaty of* Seville, notwithſtanding the *Remarker*'s malicious Inſinuations. On the contrary, that Gentleman from a Senſe of the Publick Intereſt, and of the *Imperial* Greatneſs, wiſh'd with the greateſt Expreſſions of Sincerity the *Emperor*'s Acceſſion to the Treaty.

I think this *Writer* very ill adviſed to reflect on the Friends of the Adminiſtration, for reviling *Foreign Princes*, when their Views are inconſiſtent with our National Intereſts; I think this imprudent for him to condemn, the rather, becauſe he

he is ſo very *polite*, *obliging*, and *candid* to their *Catholick Majeſties*, ſince *Spain* has become our ſincere and faithful Ally; that in *Page* 26. *Par.* I. by a ſtrong Implication he inſinuates, they have Violence in their View to the Perſons, or at leaſt to the Rights of the Duke of *Parma*, and of the Great Duke of *Tuſcany*; *i. e.* they would either *deſtroy* or *dethrone* thoſe Princes: A Hint of ſo extraordinary a Nature, tolerably well agrees with the *Craftſman*'s Compliments to the *Spaniſh* Court, whilſt they were looked on as our Enemies, that they were a *wiſe*, a *great*, and *brave* Nation, for which he brought *Puffendorf* as an Authority. I ſuppoſe, if the *Emperor* accedes to the Treaty of *Seville*, that *Monarch* muſt alſo ſubmit to be abuſed in *his Turn* by this ſecond *Aretine*, this *Libeller* of Sovereign Princes. At preſent I cannot help obſerving, that as he could never accuſe the Writers of the oppoſite Side, with any Abuſe of the Friends and Allies of their Country; ſo he has been abundantly liberal where they have been ſparing, and paid all his Vows to the Pagods of a contrary Intereſt.

He obſerves by the Terms of the *Quadruple Alliance*, that his *Catholick Majeſty* was not to take upon him the *Guardianſhip*

dianſhip of that Prince who ſhould ſtand in Succeſſion to *Tuſcany*. I have carefully look'd over the Treaty of *Seville*, and I cannot find any ſuch Guardianſhip aſſum'd. No, the Kings of *Great-Britain* and *France*, with the *States-General*, are to be Guardians or Guarantees *entirely* excluſive of *Spain*.

And as to the introducing Troops into Garriſons during the Lives of the reigning Princes, it is, that the Succeſſion ſhould not *lay too open* or *expos'd* upon their Demiſe. The *Imperial* Forces are quarter'd all round in their Neighbourhood, and if the *Emperor* ſhould ever be averſe to this Succeſſion, (which God forbid) who knows but he may ſieze on thoſe Dominions before the Guarantees, who live at a much greater Diſtance, can come to the Relief of *Don Carlos*?

His *Imperial Majeſty* hath had Abundance of Proofs that the *Britiſh* Nation are his Friends. I dare ſay he complains of no *uncivil* Behaviour from us, and would not be much pleas'd with thoſe *ſanguine Volunteers* in his Cauſe, who upbraid us with having done *too little for him*. We were not charg'd with Want of Complaiſance, when we expended our Millions,

Millions, and ſacrificed Armies in Support of that Monarch's Succeſſion to the Kingdom of *Spain*. We were not reproach'd as *ill-manner'd*, when we conquer'd him an Iſland, even *Sicily* itſelf, to cover his Kingdom of *Naples*. I hope neither he nor his Friends will think it *uncivil* or very *unpolite*, that we ſhould alſo make good our Engagements of *two little* Duchies to *Don Carlos*. I dare ſay the Court of *Vienna* will allow us to ſerve other Princes in Turn as well as themſelves, nor take it ſo *extremely unkind*.

In this we do no more than what our brave King *William*, our glorious Deliverer, often undertook; what the valiant invincible and immortal Duke of *Marlborough* conſtantly fought for, and what I muſt hope the illuſtrious Houſe of *Hanover* will always purſue; who as they receiv'd the Sceptre from the Hands of that Monarch will ſway it by his ſhining Example.

The Tranquillity of Nations, their Rights of Succeſſion, the Diviſion of Countries, and equal Diſtribution of Power; This was the View of King *William* in all his Proceedings: This is the preſent Deſign in the Treaty of *Seville*.

He

He expreſſes his own Apprehenſions that his Imperial Majeſty will think it derogatory to his Honour, that a *Fief of the Empire* ſhould be diſpos'd of without his *Conſent*, tho', it ſeems, *by his Act of Inveſtiture.*

He grounds his Apprehenſions on the *Manner* of the Diſpoſition, which cannot be reſented by a Prince whoſe Faith is ſincere in his ſolemn Stipulations, ſince it does not *defeat*, but *ſtrengthen* his Intentions.

He adds, it is an Expedient to diſſolve an Alliance, *advantageous* to his *Imperial Majeſty.* It may be the better for that, if ſuch an Alliance was bad for us: I hope he does not think this the worſe for his Country: And if the *Emperor* will not recognize our juſt Intereſts, we cannot help it; but ſtill it will be our National Duty to maintain them.

He ſubjoins, that his *Imperial Majeſty*'s ſuffering himſelf to be *diſunited* from ſo *beneficial* an Alliance, rather than come into this Treaty, is an Argument that he thought it contrary to his Intereſt.

Now

Now in my humble Opinion the *Emperor* has not diſunited himſelf from the *Vienna* Alliance, by any Thing that I can perceive; for that Treaty ſtill ſubſiſts in every Thing not contrary to former Treaties, and his *Imperial Majeſty* would never allow that any Thing therein was contrary to them.

And though that Prince might require ſome Time to conſider the Treaty, longer than perhaps it could be juſtly delayed; yet I ſee no Reaſon or Shew of Argument, that his *Imperial Majeſty* is determined *not to accede*; and I am aſſured he will, in Confidence of the old *German Faith*, and that the Emperor will execute his own Engagements in the moſt effectual Manner.

To ſhew the Nature of the Emperor's Engagements in this Caſe, I muſt here obſerve, that he conſented to the Succeſſion of *Don Carlos* by the Treaty of *London*, and by the Treaty of *Vienna*. That by the former he engaged to procure *Don Carlos* the Imperial Act of Inveſtiture, which was accordingly delivered to *Spain* by Conſent of the *Germanick Body*, all the Princes and States of the Empire. So that

that the *Emperor* can never conceive it *derogatory to his Honour*, to permit a Succeſſion which he has confirmed by ſo many Treaties: On the contrary, he muſt demur to all thoſe Treaties, ſhould he oppoſe it.

He ſeems to hope that the reigning Princes of *Tuſcany* and *Parma*, will invite the *Emperor*'s Force to exclude *Don Carlos* and the *Spaniſh* Garriſons; becauſe they can never be pleaſed to admit a Foreign Power into their States whilſt they live. But I cannot ſee why thoſe Princes ſhould not be content with a Foreign Power in their States, to preſerve the Neutrality of *Italy*; as well as the *Emperor* himſelf in the *Netherlands*, to preſerve the Security of *Flanders*.

The *Remarker* would give *Two* Reaſons on this Head.

Firſt, The preſent Dukes might think their Perſons ſafer in relation to *Neutral Garriſons*, who could not offer Violence upon them without the Concurrence of *Three Neutral Kings*, who can have no Reaſon to be ſo impatient for the ſpeedy Acceſſion of *Don Carlos* as their *Catholick Majeſties* ſeem to be.

Anſw.

Answ. I beg Leave to reply, that it can never be the Interest of their *Catholick Majesties* to offer any Violence of this Sort, or to hasten the Succession of their Son by any *unjustifiable* Means, because, as it would draw the *united* Force of all *Europe* upon them, it would effectually defeat their most *favourite* Ends.

Secondly, He thinks that Neutral Garrisons would be under less Temptation to meddle *directly* or *indirectly* in Affairs of the *Political*, *Oeconomical* and *Civil* Government.

Answ. I must differ in this Point with the *Remarker* from daily Experience; for I don't think that *Spanish* Forces in *Italy* can be under more Temptations of this Kind than *Dutch Forces* in *Flanders*: And yet nothing like it was ever attempted, because it would certainly have caused an Expulsion of all such Troops from those Countries; a sufficient Reason why it never will be attempted.

The *Remarker* leaves the World to judge, if the *reigning* Princes, or the *Emperor*, should either *justly* or *unjustly* oppose the Execution of this Treaty, whether it hath procured that only good End

we could ever propose, a *general* and *lasting Peace*.

As I am one of that Many to whom he refers, I will freely explain my Opinion, and as freely submit to better Judgment. Though I admit in this Event (an Event far from certain or unavoidable) that the Peace will not be absolutely Universal, yet I am humbly of Opinion, that our Peace with *so many Powers*, will at least be very valuable; and that no Interruption of the general Peace can be *very long*, because it will be a most *unequal* Opposition. Does he think the *French* will suffer the *Emperor* to extend his Conquests any where, or to oppose *their* Engagements? Does he think there will not be the very same Check and Restraint on his *Prussian* Majesty's Excursions, as there was a few Months ago, when *France* and the *States General* both declared they were Guarantees, and would preserve the Peace in the Circles of *Lower Germany*? Or does he think no Treaty must be made, for fear some *particular* Power should *unjustly* oppose it? If this should be the Case, no Treaties can ever be made.

However, if we must be involved in War, *as this Writer* alone *prognosticates*, I must

I muſt diſſent from him in this, that it matters not what Prince we begin with; becauſe I think a *Peace* with *Spain* is infinitely advantageous to a *Trading Nation*, even during a *War* with the *Emperor*; and the Caſe is much altered for the better, if, *inſtead* of a War with both *Germany* and *Spain*, we ſhould only be at Variance with the *former*; nor would a War with the *Emperor*, as he thinks, be more burdenſome to a *Trading Nation*, and impracticable to a *Maritime Power*, becauſe our Fleets would ſufficiently aſſiſt us in *Italy*; and the *French*, as alſo the *Turks*, would be glad to keep him quiet in *Germany*.

Now if we conſider the Difference between a War with *Germany*, and a War with *Spain*, it is very great, and vaſtly important; no ſuffering Merchants, no plundered Commerce will then alarm or grieve us. The *Trading* Intereſt therefore owes this *Writer* Thanks, who would gladly continue the Cauſe of all their Miſfortunes.

He ſays, if the *Emperor* could poſſeſs himſelf of *Tuſcany*, in Caſe *the Succeſſion lay open*, he may give a vaſt Oppoſition to its being effected. I think not; for he

might do that by *Surprize*, which he is unequal to by *Force* of *Arms*.

As to the Argument, that *Neutral* Troops, introduc'd during the Lives of those Princes, would be more consistent with his Honour, as well as more agreeable to them, the Fallacy of that will easily appear, because it is as much a *Variation* from the Treaty of *London*.

And since we save the Expence of two Thousand Men *per Annum*, it is a real Advantage, because we should have been as much opposed if we had not saved that Expence; for the Pretence of Opposition is our varying from the last nam'd Alliance; and *Swiss*, *French*, or even *our own* Troops would have been as much a Contravention as *Spanish* Troops. So that this *Frugality* cannot, in itself, be the Cause of a *greater* Expence in *Germany*.

Having consider'd the Treaty of *Seville* with regard to the *Emperor*, we must follow our *Remarker*, and view it in relation to *Spain*.

And

And here it is objected, that the *Non-execution* of the Agreement for *Don Carlos*, must *vacate* the whole Treaty.

A *voluntary* Non-execution undoubtedly will; but can his *Catholick Majesty* violate the Treaty on such an Event as this, that the Fortune of War may possibly (and a mere Possibility it is) defeat the *united* Arms of *Europe* against the *Emperor*?

Besides, it ought to be consider'd, the Restitution of our Losses since *June* 1727. is to be *immediate* and *forthwith*, as well as the Introduction of the *Spanish* Garrisons is to be WITHOUT LOSS OF TIME, and that the Affair of the Merchants stands PRIOR in the Treaty to the *Tuscan* Affair, and, so far as it is to be *without Loss of Time*, must have the Preference; nay, if it is not perform'd *immediately*, nothing is oblig'd to be done in favour of *Don Carlos*.

I am almost quite tir'd with pursuing him through every Page; but I dare not neglect him in one Piece of Justice, I mean an ever-memorable Paragraph in the 29th Page which runs in these Words, *viz.*

"It

" It is likewise very observable, that
" there is no Provision in *this Treaty*, as
" there was in the *Quadruple Alliance*, to
" prevent the Conjunction of *these Do-*
" *minions*, upon any Contingency, with the
" *Crown of* Spain."

This *Blunderbuss* of a Politician, if he had read the Treaty of *Seville* with any Attention, would have found the *Quadruple Alliance* ratify'd Word for Word, as if it had been inserted on this very Occasion, nothing excepted, but the Affair of the Garrisons. Such careful Commentators as this *Writer*, are admirably qualify'd to publish *Remarks* upon Treaties.

As to the Argument concerning *ostensible* Treaties, it is a very just Distinction. The Manner of executing some Designs, must be conceal'd, or they may be defeated. That some Stipulations of this Kind are in the Treaty before us, I shall not deny: But I am assur'd they are only of this Kind, entirely concerning the Introduction of those Troops; and I have given a very good Reason why there can be no other.

He is vastly fond of the Notion that there is some private Treaty; he dwells very

very much upon it: He compares the Ministers to ancient Philosophers, who had their Exotericks and Esotericks; the former for the View of the Vulgar, the latter for their private Meditations: But he, good Man, who is implicitly anti-ministerial, and unphilosophical in every Thing, would suppress the *Exotericks*, and dwell merely on *esoterical* Doctrines, though really as they are natural to no Man's Head but his, I wish he would prudently keep them within the Precincts of his own Brain.

He comes on to the Argument concerning GIBRALTAR.

He would invalidate our Right to it by trumping up a *Convention* never heard of but from some of his Family; I mean the *Craftsman* and his Correspondents: So that, says he, this being confirm'd among others, the Engagement to *surrender* that Fortress still subsists.

I can only reply, that if Writers will pretend to be in Secrets, which the whole World are Strangers to, as there is no disputing with them, so there is no believing in them. I must therefore conceive *Gibraltar* is fully secur'd to this Nation, in Virtue of its ancient Treaties with

Spain,

" It is likewise very observable, that
" there is no Provision in *this Treaty*, as
" there was in the *Quadruple Alliance*, to
" prevent the Conjunction of *these Do-*
" *minions*, upon any Contingency, with the
" *Crown of* Spain."

This *Blunderbuss* of a Politician, if he had read the Treaty of *Seville* with any Attention, would have found the *Quadruple Alliance* ratify'd Word for Word, as if it had been inserted on this very Occasion, nothing excepted, but the Affair of the Garrisons. Such careful Commentators as this *Writer*, are admirably qualify'd to publish *Remarks* upon Treaties.

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Spain,

Spain, notwithſtanding his *modeſt* Inſinuations to the contrary.

He ſays we muſt ſolely rely on the ſecond Article, wherein the King of *Spain* guarantees all his Majeſty's *Kingdoms*, *States*, and *Dominions*; but he *honeſtly* ſuppreſſes the Words, *under his Majeſty's Obedience in whatever Part of the World ſituate*; and by the Help of this *wretched* Sophiſtry, he accepts a Defiance to *cavil* at the Guaranty. This *egregious* Stateſman will have it, that *Gibraltar* is *only* a POSSESSION, and not a DOMINION, *under the King of* Great Britain's *Obedience*: He finds the Word *Poſſeſſion* in the *Hanover Treaty*, and therefore the Word *Dominion* in this muſt not be a *ſynonymous* Term. Is *Wales* a Dominion? And is *Gibraltar*, or the *Iſland* of *Minorca*, no Dominion? What deſcribes a *Dominion under Obedience*, but Sovereign Power exercis'd therein? I am aſham'd from my Soul, to anſwer a mere *Nibbler* on Words; a *Critick* that weighs *Sounds*, and ſcans *Syllables*. But I have done with this *miſerable* Diſtinction, which I am ready to believe was invented merely for the Sake of the *Defiance*, and more to ſhew his Parts at a *Cavil*, than to invalidate the Guaranty.

And

And now he proceeds to *three trifling* Objections against the *Stipulations* for the Merchants.

First, As to the *Place* of Enquiry, which he thinks would have been more properly fix'd at *London*, where our Merchants, for whose Relief this Commission was principally intended, could with much less Trouble and Expence have produced the authentick Proofs and Vouchers for their Losses, as also reply to any Objections that may be made to their Demands.

Answ. To obviate this it is to be considered, the only Dispute that can possibly arise in this Enquiry will lie between *London* and *New Spain*; so that had the Commission been executed *here* it would have been situated in an *extreme Part* of the World. And as upon every Doubt or Difficulty the *Commissaries* must send to the *Spanish West-Indies*, their Enquiry would not only have been *suspended* during the Voyage and Return, but during the *Journeys* of *Couriers* between the Courts of *London* and *Seville*, which would not have been very convenient. And as to the Trouble

or Expence of the Merchants in exhibiting Proofs or Vouchers, their *Factors* can do it as well as themſelves in the ordinary Courſe of Commerce; nor can it be doubted but that they will properly furniſh them *at once*, with all the authentick Evidence now in their Hands.

Secondly, He objects, that unlawful Commerce, or *Contraband* Trade, is not explain'd or ſpecify'd in this Treaty.

Anſw. The Objection can have no Weight, becauſe there can be no *Illicite Trade*, but ſuch as ſtands declared in former Treaties; and Right is to be done upon *that Foot alone.*

The *Third* Objection is againſt the Time allowed for the Enquiry. He cites a fooliſh Proverb, that *to gain Time is to gain every Thing:* But can he ſhew that any Time is loſt to us in this Limitation? Can the Commiſſaries do their Buſineſs ſooner?

But what is moſt *falſe* and *ſcandalous*, that the Reſtitution, which was once expected for the *Spaniſh* Ships taken in 1718, may, if now allowed, over-balance the

the *British* Merchants Damages by several *Hundred Thousand Pounds.*

This truly is News; are there many *Ships* of *War* in the World worth a *Hundred Thousand Pounds?* And there were not many TAKEN in All; some indeed were *destroy'd*, but only those *Taken* were to be restored: Now will He pretend that these *few Ships* of War, and *mere* Ships of War, that were taken, can over-balance the *wealthy* Cargoes, and the *valuable* Effects taken from the *British* Merchants during *sixteen* Years? I think all the *Traders* of *Great Britain* are under infinite Obligations to their Friend for so gracious a Hint.

Nor does it appear, as He arrogantly thinks, that the *Spaniards* do *absolutely* expect a Reparation, because they insisted on this Stipulation to refer the Claim to Commissaries: No, they only put it on the Foot of a common Enquiry, *Whether they ought to have a Reparation.*

The *Writer* observes, the *Spaniards* found their Claim to this Restitution on the Treaty of 1721, which he asserts is the very same Treaty on which they

found their Claim to *Gibraltar:* But he knows it to be falſe, *palpably* falſe; for the Treaty of 1721 may be ſeen in ROUSSET's *Collection*, and not the leaſt Word or Hint of *Gibraltar* is mentioned therein.

He has now done with his *notable* Remarks on this Treaty; whether it be *juſt* or *honourable*, or *advantageous* to Us, he leaves the World to judge; whether he hath proved it otherwiſe, I muſt alſo ſubmit, and likewiſe the Sincerity of his Acknowledgments with Regard to his Majeſty's *Goodneſs* in his Treaties, or his *Right* in the *Pruſſian* Affair.

He *modeſtly* and *honeſtly* complains of *Writers* againſt him, for *putting Caſes* and *preſſing Arguments* of a very *high* and *perſonal* Nature. If his Friend the *Craftſman*, or that Author's Correſpondents had been tender or ſparing in theſe Things, the World would not wonder at this *extraordinary* Complaint. They have ſpar'd no *Orders* or *Degrees* of Men, no *Privacies* of Life or *perſonal* Inſults whatever: And when theſe are return'd with moſt *lawful* Reprizals, they complain that *they are* preſs'd *in their* Arguments,

Arguments, *and put to* Pain *in their* Anſwers. But I beg Leave to inform them, the only Remedy for this is not to *ſtrain* ſo much in their Arguments, or be ſo *provoking* in their Inſults.

As to making this Treaty the Cauſe of the KING, however that ſacred Name was its Ratification; yet to draw in the Perſon of Majeſty to overbear the Enquiry, is an Artifice I ſcorn, and do not want. Let it ſtand or fall by its own Merits: Let it be try'd by the Country without any Conſideration of Perſons. And I allow that *Miniſters* deſerve to be puniſh'd who *make a bad Treaty*; but what do they deſerve who *miſrepreſent a good one?*

After having call'd *every foul* Name, he hopes he has preſerv'd a *Decency* of Language. On my Part I hope I have preſerv'd it *wherever it was due:* But as to Fraud or Falſhood, I think they are entitled to very little Ceremony in the Detection; and to ſay the Truth in this Caſe, muſt be to ſhew them black as they really are.

His *Warmth* he would aſcribe to the *Virulence* of the *Writer* he anſwers: I take

take this Occaſion to do the ſame on my own Part. But as to the Faults he would excuſe by his writing in *Haſte*, the very Plea admits a Crime: Why did he not write at *Leiſure?* Falſe Reaſoning or Facts are not to be juſtify'd by Raſhneſs. I hope that *able* and *maſterly* Hand, to whoſe Superiority he is *Trumpeter in Ordinary*, when He reſumes the Subject, will do it greater Juſtice, and write with more Conſideration. If he does not, my own *little Abilities* may endeavour to ſupply the Deficiency.

What I have offer'd to the View of the World, is wrote from no unworthy Views, no other Attachment to Courts than what every honeſt Man owes to upright Magiſtrates, to a faithful Adminiſtration. I have no Intereſt in this Treaty but what every FREE BRITON ſhares in common, the general Advantage of my Country. To ſhew that I am *unbyaſs'd* on this Occaſion, I will be ſtrictly *impartial* in every Thing of an oppoſite Nature; and when any *Proſtitute to Courts* ſhall give as great Offence to *diſintereſted* Men, I will uſe them as I have done the *Hackneys of a Faction.*

POSTSCRIPT.

SINCE the Writing of these Sheets, upon looking into the *Original* Treaty, *Art.* 2. I find the Words of Guaranty are, *leurs Royaumes, Etâts & Terres de leur Obeissance, en quelques Parties du Monde qu'ils soient situes.* In the Translation *Terres* is improperly translated *Dominions*, tho' it should most undoubtedly have been interpreted *Lands* or *Possessions.* I therefore submit whether the Words of *Guaranty* are not very full, unexceptionable, and most effectual.

FINIS.