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U N M A S K ' D B A T T E R Y ;

Or, a Short NARRATIVE of our
M I S E R A B L E C O N D I T I O N .

G R O U N D E D

Upon Undeniable F A C T S, for the Plain;
Honest Information of the P U B L I C K ;
whose Right, and Interest, it is to Address
R E L I E F ; and to endeavour, at least, to
make the best of their B A D M A R K E T S .

W I T H

Some Q U O T A T I O N S from the Great and
Famous *W I L L I A M P E N N*, the
Q u a k e r ; Explaining the Duty of a True
Protestant Dissenter to the K I N G , & c .

By the A U T H O R of
C R Y A L O U D and S P A R E N O T .

L O N D O N :

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T H E
F R E E - B O R N
E N G L I S H M A N ' s
Unmask'd Battery, &c.

AS our Great, Good, and Wise Managers of State, thought it expedient to advise the Dissolution of the Parliament so very suddenly, and unexpected, it was impossible to remind the People of the melancholy Situation of their Affairs, or to afford them the least timely Advice, in regard to the new Choice that was going to be made. — No! the Managers, conscious of their own Guilt, well knew, that should the Wounds in the Constitution, be probed to the Bottom, and laid open, a true *English* Spirit would no longer be imposed upon, or bear their ignominious Sway.

To conceal Truth, therefore, by all manner of Artifices, and to hurry, or surprize the People into their Measures, without giving them any Opportunity for Thought or Reflection, seems to be the only Means they have left to support, and carry on, their wicked and destructive

Schemes. Accordingly, when the Nation was puff'd up with that lucky, accidental Hit, of taking some *French Ships*, with three times their Force, and when every Body was in the midst of Joy and Transport on that Occasion, heated and flush'd with Liquor, and encouraged with still more extraordinary Expectations, not only from the Duke in *Flanders*, but from *Genoa*, and in a Word, from all other Quarters, — the Good Parliament was dissolved, and not above fifty Days allow'd for the Return of another; and as no Industry was wanting to improve this little, lucky Opportunity, the good unthinking Multitude, in this Series, or Train of imaginary Happiness, were decoy'd and conducted on to the sudden, inconsiderate Choice, of a New Parliament for Seven Years. The People, as I have observed, had no time to discern, or consider, what they were going about; and the honest Country Gentlemen, and others in the true Interest of the Nation, who were no way in the Secret, they stood amazed and astonish'd at the thing; while the Good Courtiers and Place-men, who long enough before for their Purpose, knew the Design, were provided with Promises, and all necessary Ingredients, for so sudden an Attack; and went on as cool, and with as much Deliberation, as if they had been retiring into their Closets, to compare the Articles of Loss and Gain, for the time past, and to consider

consider how it might be advanced for the time to come; being well satisfied that there could be no useful Opposition given by the Country Party, who could be no way qualified for so unexpected an Alarm; and that nothing could stem the Torrent of Corruption which might, at Pleasure, be pour'd down against them; sufficient to overwhelm every thing that stood in its way.

Therefore, let none be surprized if this Parliament should appear to be the most tractable, engaging one, that ever yet had the Honour to darken the Walls of that sanctified House. Happy had it been for our Noble Duke in *Flanders*, as well as the Nation in General, that some such good Management had been carried on there; that instead of an early Parade, or Shew of a Campaign, they had been thus furnish'd with all manner of Artillery, Ammunition and Provisions, to have enabled them to steal a March, as effectually, and well provided upon the Enemy Abroad, as they have in this Case done, upon the sincere Friends to Liberty and Old *England* at Home; but it's well if no Share of the immense Sums that have been granted this Year has been misapply'd, in besieging some of our Towns and Places at Home, so as to occasion Part of the Blunders, and Deficiencies that have so manifestly fallen out Abroad; for, with all that has been granted, which is more than ever
was

was known before, our Army has not been able to face the Enemy, or hinder them from invading, and conquering the Territories of our seeming Dear Friends, and nearest Allies the *Dutch*—But to return to our General Election, The lucky Incident, before mention'd, of the two Noble Admirals Success, was so seasonable to forward the great Design, then in Agitation, that no Man should admire if those very fortunate Gentlemen, for such I fancy they will allow themselves to be, were distinguish'd and Honour'd more particularly, than others before; who, it is possible, might deserve, at least, full as well; of which Number I hope I may venture to say, without Ceremony, that the Brave, Just, and Experienced Admiral *Vernon* is one; whose Actions are, sure, too fresh in every worthy *Englishman's* Breast to be forgot, tho' they have not been Rewarded.

However these other two Gentlemen, who seem to be the Darlings of Fortune, have met with particular Appplause, Honours, and Rewards, at which I am so far from repining, that I wish they had been both made Peers, or any thing more to their own Satisfaction, rather than either of them should be confined to the Service of the House of Commons; a Service, in itself, both expensive and fatiguing; from which no honest Profits can arise, nor any thing but the secret Pleasure of acting well, to those only who dare

dare do so, in discharging the Duty of a faithful
 Servant and Representative of the People; a Sta-
 tion never cut out for Officers of either Army
 or Navy, but for honest, upright, Independent
 Gentlemen, no otherwise employ'd; and for
 Persons knowing and eminent in Trade Com-
 merce, and Manufactories; therefore, it is asto-
 nishing that any brave, useful, experienced Offi-
 cers, of Land, or Sea, whose Ambition ought
 to be fix'd on Glory only, as long as they are
 able to act, should at all Rates, so much Struggle
 for a Seat in that House, when they are, in a
 manner, certain, that no Man in Employment,
 can Act independently, and as a Free-Agent,
 without manifest Hazard of giving Displeasure:
 At least when they become Members, they sel-
 dom acquire many future Preferments, without
 the Approbation of the Minister, or leading
 Manager of the House, to whose Nod, or
 Frown, it is expected they should be always sub-
 servient; whereas every Brave Officer, by Land
 or Sea, is a King in his Station; and is capable,
 especially in time of War, to gain more Ho-
 nour and Advantage, to himself and his Family,
 in one Day, and to become Dearer to his Friends
 and Country, by his Noble Actions in their Ser-
 vice, than by sitting in the House of Commons,
 for an Age, under the Influence of the greatest
 Minister upon Earth; yet it is plain some of
 those Brave Gentlemen, do covet to get into this
 genteel

genteel Sort of Confinement; but, without Doubt they have their own weighty Reasons for it; some of which might, I presume, induce one of the Fortunate Admirals to put up for *Westminster*; tho' some say it was not so much his own Choice, but that the *Junto* would have it so, thinking him just at that favourable Moment, from his red-hot sudden Popularity, the properest Person that could be pitch'd upon to divide, and thwart, the honest Designs of the Independent Electors of that Ancient City and Liberty; and also to serve as a very useful Ladder for the young Gentleman that join'd him to climb by; whose own Merit was as unknown as his Person; and, except that of his being tack'd to the Admiral, could have no other Recommendation but the long conspicuous Loyalty of his Family, in which they have so very nicely distinguish'd themselves, beyond all Contradiction, that their Fame cannot fail being transmitted to the latest Posterity. This being one of the earliest Elections in the Kingdom, and for so great and remarkable a Place, it was reasonable to imagine that the Issue of it might, in some Degree, be a President to others; and the uncommon, and most extraordinary Methods pursued for the Purpose, is a strong Proof of the great Stress they laid upon it; for neither Promises, * * * * Threats, Menaces, Blows, Riots, or any kind of Artifices, or Contrivances,

were

were left untry'd to carry the Point; and it is happy it was given up as it was, without finishing; for, otherwise, no body can conceive the Confusion it might have ended in from the unaccountable Fury, of a powerful, lawless, and outrageous Mob: What a shocking Sight must be to all People, except the most abandon'd Rabble upon Earth, to see Gentlemen, or, *&c.* usher'd to the Place of Poll, under the hideous, frightful, infernal Noise, of Marrow Bones and Clevers; exercised by a Sort of Cannibals, hurried to nothing so much as Blood and Slaughter; yet these were the Body Guards at this Election; and under Cover of this Brutal, abominable Jargon—these unlawful, hacking Instruments, were reserved, with Stuffs, and other Weapons, to be put in Force, at Pleasure, against all who did not appear in their Regimentals and Arms; which made the whole become so terrible, to sober timorous People, that Numbers went away without attempting to Vote at all; and others, being told how Matters went, could not be prevail'd upon to go near the Spot; all which gave such room to the Dependents, on whom this horrid Band attended, to get a Head in the Poll, to such a Degree, that a great Number, of another Sort, were so discouraged, that they resolv'd neither to meddle or make, as they call'd it; finding all Hopes for Peace and Justice, quite vain and fruitless; and, in short, who

ever appear'd without a Cocade, with the Words, *Trentham*, and *Warren*; King *George* for ever; no Pretender; and remember the late Rebellion; had but a very poor Chance of standing long upon his Legs, much more of advancing to the proper Place to give his Vote: Had it been a time of Rebellion in *Westminster*, or that they could ever Dream of meeting the Pretender at the Election, or any of his Adherents, the Cocades would have been very right; and they that should dare to appear without them ought to be knock'd down; but, at a Free Election of *English* Protestant Members to sit in Parliament where no body could on any Account, deserve these insulting Epithets, any more than they that countenanced them, nor in Fact, so much, if a Circumstances, old and new, were put together sure nothing could come up to such mean scandalous, and unjust Insinuations; which must be calculated purely to mislead and enrage a wicked giddy, hair-brain'd Mob; who of themselves are almost sufficient to raise a Rebellion at any time, without being furnish'd with any mischievous Matter to stir them up to it; and had the true Friends of the Government, as they sit themselves, either common good Policy, or a Share of Prudence, or good Nature, they should instead of widening or opening old Sores, pour Oil into them, and endeavour to temper and heal them, and not contrive to turn them into

many eating Ulcers; for they should consider, that ungratefully branding Men with what they do not deserve, often makes them desperate; and in the end, downright Provocation and Resentment, makes them become in Earnest, what they were before only wrongfully accused of; and I very much Question whether there are not many of this Class, at present in *Great-Britain*, owing to busy, worthless Animals, who are no more capable of distinguishing Truth from Falshood, than they are of being serviceable to any Government. However the Transactions of the Mob, and the Cocades, at the Election, put me in mind of a most impudent notorious Thief, and Pick-pocket, in the beginning of *George* the First's Reign; the Fellow observing the Words, God bless King *George*, and King *George* for ever, in every Body's Mouth, and being a new thing, he fancied it might be an excellent Protection, or Passport; and the Minute he either robb'd, or pick'd any body's Pocket, he used to run off, as fast as his Legs could carry him, brandishing his Stick, and waving his Hat, with loud Huza's, and King *George* for ever, which made every Body clear the Way; and tho' others were running after him, with a Cry of, stop Thief, stop Thief, no Body regarded that, and the Rogue for a long time escaped, and was taken by every Body to be the Loyalest Man in the World; at last, upon a time, he got his Hand

into a Gentleman's Pocket, and having laid hold of his Snuff-Box, the Gentleman, before he could get off, took fast hold of him, and being almost choak'd in the Scuffle, he could not get out the Word King *George*, time enough, as usual; so he was knock'd down, seized, and carried before Justice *Negus*, in the *Muse*, and most gloriously duck'd in the *Horse-pond*, before he was sent to *Bridewell*; which being seen by some, who knew him in his Loyal Capacity only, made them cry out, Lord, Lord, why what's the Matter? What's the Matter? We know this Gentleman; he is one of the greatest King *George's* Men in the World; Ay, says others, that may be, but he's a damn'd Rogue for all that; and they had like to have been roughly handled for knowing him; but as no People are so apt to learn Mischief as the Mob, and other common low-lived Wretches, such as I have been talking of, it became a cant Word, for a long time after, among the Thieves and such, when any thing happen'd, Damn you, why did not you shout out King *George*? And I also very well remember so much of those Days, that if I had been a King's Messenger, with a discretionary Power to go in search of *Jacobites*, or what is call'd Pretender's Men, I would scarce have pass'd a certain Spot in *Staffordshire*; but should have thought it a more likely Place to stumble upon them than in any of the Houses
 belonging

belonging to the Families of the two worthy
 Baronets who put up for *Westminster*; at whom,
 and their Friends, those malicious Reflections
 must have been pointed; wherefore the whole
 Proceedings at this Election appears to every
 honest, unprejudiced Person to be, not only
 unwarrantable and childish, but most weakly
 grounded; and ought rather to serve as a Re-
 proach to all that were concern'd in it, than
 any thing else. Some may, perhaps, look upon
 this as a Sort of Digression, or parting from the
 main Subject; but it is neither so, or foreign
 to the Case in Hand; being intended to shew
 how absurd and ridiculous it is in Men of the
 least tolerable Sense, or Consideration, to take
 any Delight in, or countenance the empty Sounds
 and Actions of a Mob; who, if they took it
 into their wild Noddles, would as loudly rejoice
 at the Downfal of the present Royal Family,
 as at that of the Pretender, and are never con-
 fined within any Bounds of Truth, Justice, or
 Reason, any more than others who forsake their
 Friends and their old long known Principles
 and Actions for Favours and Preferment, are
 to Virtue, Honour, or common Prudence; for
 they, like wandering Prostitutes, or Whores, from
 one Degree of Vice to another, become so Case-
 harden'd and senseless to all manner of Shame,
 as to regard nothing the World can either say
 or think of them; and, as if the Devil really
 and

and truly ow'd them a Grudge, they are generally the first that take Pains to draw an old House over their own Heads.

As to the Noble Admiral, named in this Election, he had the Happiness of being Absent upon much better, and more honourable Duty; and therefore, any thing done by his Agents or Managers, ought not to be attributed to him, as we hope he was not capable of giving any such Instructions; and that, on all Occasions, he will convince the World of his Abhorrence of every thing that can tend to tarnish the Character he has acquired in the Service of his Country: Let that be your Mark, ye brave Sons of *Neptune*; go on and prosper in that Element of Glory, to the Shame and Confusion of all who have advised, voted for, and promoted that unnatural, mercenary and destructive War on the Continent; without any, not even the most distant Prospect of Honour, or Success, which all Events have most fatally proved to this Day; for which Reason every Man, in the true Interest of his Country, should wish and advise, that all brave experienced Admirals, and Gentlemen of the Navy, should be reserved for that Safe-guard only; which Nature has so sufficiently furnish'd us with for our Defence; and none but such ought to preside at either the Admiralty, Navy, or Victualling Boards; from which some of the most active could always be
spared,

spared, upon proper Emergencies, without Hindrance of Business, or Neglect of Duty; but the Absence of one Man from the Service of the House of Commons is of such a Nature and Consequence, that it may be the Means of either saving or destroying the Nation, as we ought to know upon a most memorable Occasion; for the Settlement of our illustrious House of *Hannover*, to the Throne of *England*, was carried but by one single Vote; and had that happy casting Voice been absent, upon Land or Sea-Service, which might have been the Case had he been an Officer, I leave *Great-Britain* to judge for themselves at this Day, how fatal it would have been to them and their Posterity: Yet I beg here not to be misunderstood, in regard to the Rewards and Honours that are, or may be due to the brave distinguish'd Officers of either Army or Navy; no! I am so far from being an Enemy to either, that I wish it was in my Power, instead of that dark Article call'd Secret Service Money, to promote a sufficient Fund, for a more ample Reward of Publick Services; from whence should issue Sums for the Purchase of Free-Lands, as an Addition to the Fortunes of all who deserved it, in Proportion to their Merit, and the better to support the Honour and Dignities of them and their Heirs for ever; and thereby, to prevent the Possibility of any kind of Drudgery, or unreasonable Expectations

of

of Men in Power; but whenever any thing required the Opinions of the Army or Navy-Boards, or any other Gentlemen in Publick Employments, they should always attend for that Purpose; when certainly their candid and honest Advice would be very useful on all necessary Occasions, as by this Means they could act freely, and without Restraint.

I shall now endeavour to demonstrate what I have before mention'd, the Distraction, or Folly, and whatever else you please to call it, of a Land War on the Continent; with how much more had it been for the Honour, and Advantage, of *Great-Britain*, to have employ'd all her Strength, and Expences by Sea, to the obtaining a safe, lasting and honourable Peace; and when nothing but most undeniable Facts are stated, sure the honest Informer of his Country's Miseries and willful Mistakes should not be blamed, how much soever the Reader may be vex'd, or grieved, to perceive they are true.— How many brave honest Men have been voted Abroad on our destructive Expeditions in this Land War, contrary to their own Experience; and the true Interest of the Nation, only to be made a Sacrifice of, or gratify the Ambition of Foreigners, and to secure them in their Pretensions? Which, considering our Naval Power; and the Advantages which Providence has blest'd us with, as an Island, abounding with all the
useful

useful Necessaries of Life, was of no more real Consequence to the Happiness of *England*, than the settling of Disputes among a Parcel of Strolling Players; in which the *English* Constitution is, in a manner, as much concern'd as with the present Quarrels in *Germany*; for suppose the Duke of *Cumberland* had beat the *French* in *Flanders* from the very Beginning, tho' it has not once happen'd, and that all the Confederates had done the same; the grand Difficulty is to know for whom all these Victories had been Won? What could *England* get by them? for what is she contending? or what can she expect at the Conclusion of a Peace, as an Equivalent; for all the Blood and Treasure that has been so profusely squander'd away; on so many ill-judged obstinate Enterprizes? And tho' some People may despise these Thoughts, they are no improper Questions, nor any way unworthy the Consideration of every honest disinterested *Englishman*.

If we had any Business with this War; on the Continent; it was in Hopes to humble *France*; to prevent her growing too powerful, so as to oppress her Neighbours, or to make successful Attempts on us; or, in the Words more commonly understood among us; to preserve the Balance of Power, and such a Number of Independent Friends, as might always oblige her into equitable Conditions in all publick Affairs; but then, in order to this, we should have had our

Thoughts fix'd on what would turn most to our own Advantage, as well as to the End propos'd; And I solemnly believe every independent considerate Man in the Kingdom must allow, to the Condemnation of our Managers, that this Part had been to Distress them by Sea, Ruin their Trade, and Seize their Colonies the Springs of that Trade, which would necessarily cut off all the Resources that could tempt, or enable them to any unjust, or unreasonable Undertakings on the Continent of *Europe*. By Sea, even allowing for bad Management, base or treacherous Command, and unforeseen Accidents, we may call ourselves more powerful than *France* and all her Allies; why should not we then make better use of that Power which Nature has so plentifully given us, and apply it, as we ought, to our vast yearly Grants; on the contrary, we are so infatuated as to be fond of nothing so much as our own Ruin, in pursuing this unhappy War on the Continent, for which Nature has rendered us so very unfit. Sure every just impartial *Briton* will allow that, if *France* had not greater Revenues than *England*, we can be no Match for her upon her own Dunghil, unassisted by the three only Protestant crown'd Heads in *Europe*, *Prussia*, *Sweden*, and *Denmark*; and consequently, that either to lessen her Power, or to keep it within proper Bounds, is but vainly and very injudiciously undertaken by us, against the great Advantages

vantages she has over us upon her own Continent. Whatever Share we take in a Land War, with our own Troops is double the Expence that the same Share would be to any other Power; and if one half of what has been expended by Land, had been applied to the Sea Service, it is very reasonable to think we might long before this time have brought our Enemies to better Terms, than we can ever now expect from the Condition we are reduced to. No Body can question the Bravery, or Courage of our *English* Soldiers; but I must own I cannot believe that seventy or eighty Thousand Men can be a Match for double that Number, well Commanded, well Officer'd, under the Eye of their Monarch, whom they passionately Love, and fortified with all the Advantages that Art, Nature and Experience, in the highest Commands, can bestow. During Queen *Anne's* Wars, which were thought and allowed to be well Grounded, all those Protestant Powers on the Continent were Hearty in what was unanimously denominated the Common Cause; they not only sent their Quota's of Troops, but were ready to conduct them at all Hazards themselves; and the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse*, now King of *Sweden*, was one of those Heroes; but, in the present War, they neither join or incline to assist us, in what the unthinking People of *England* Dream to be the same Cause; and the King of *Denmark* is so far from being a Friend, that he

will do nothing contrary to his Engagements with his Most Christian Majesty, which are now, they say, renew'd again for ten Years longer; and yet in all Appearance, King *George* ought to have more Reason to expect the Friendship of these three Powers at this time, than ever Queen *Anne* could have in her Reign; for, besides the Engagements of Religion and Policy, there is now that of Blood, and Alliance of Families, with each of those Powers which was not then. The King of *Prussia* was born the Nephew of his present *Britannick* Majesty; and *Hesse Cassel*, and *Denmark*, have both had the Honour of becoming his Sons in Law; and tho' we see sometimes, that Nearness of Blood is not binding, where Interests are different, yet sure, where they are the same, as in our Common Cause, we are taught to believe, being related should rather be a Motive to real Friendship than the contrary; therefore something must be more in the Wind than every Body knows, or I shall take upon me to explain; otherwise, why should these three Protestant crown'd Heads of *Prussia*, *Denmark*, and *Sweden*, who are the only ones in Christendom, except our own, suffer us to be wading up to our Necks through the Difficulties of a Land War, in fighting for Roman Catholicks, and against Roman Catholicks, without regarding what we are about, any more than if it was a Quarrel among Negroes, in the remotest Part of the

the

the *Indies*? In short, as there must be some Reasons for this Behaviour, among many others that might be assign'd, I cannot help believing, that the K — g of *Gr — t-Br — n* being also El — r of *Ha — r* gives these three Protestant Powers a jealousy of his growing Power and Greatness; and it's possible that may Over-balance the Confidence they would otherwise repose in the K — g of *Gr — t-Br — n*, if he had no Foreign Dominions bordering upon theirs; for People are very often in Dread of Powerful Neighbours; and their Fears may be grounded upon the famous Partition Scheme, at the breaking out of the War in *Germany*, which gave such a Proof of the Good-will of some certain Persons, that I presume, they have never since been overfond of trusting to it; and either something very extraordinary must hinder *Great-Britain* from having her natural Interest as usual, among those Protestant Powers, or they have very different Ideas of their own Interest, to what they had before the present Family were on the Throne of *England*. The Designs of *France* are neither less pernicious, or less manifest now than in the Reign of Queen *Anne*; and *Prussia*, *Denmark*, and *Sweden*, are no farther from that common Danger than they used to be; what then, I say again, can be the Reason they do not join us in what we so ridiculously call the Common Cause; or interfere in any Respect, but continue

as so many sneering Spectators of our Madness and Folly: Had they ever imagined themselves in Danger, or any thing like what we have been all along dreaming of, and led to believe, who are an Island, and may always have a Fleet sufficient to defend us, sure their own Safety would long since have roused them; instead of which, they remain in a perfect State of Ease and Indifference, tho' they see us plunged into visible, and approaching Ruin; and if they are under no Apprehensions of the growing Power of *France*, what, in the Name of Mercy, has *England* been driving at? Or why does she every Day post on, faster and faster, to compleat her Misfortunes? — Are we any nearer to *France*, or more exposed to it now than heretofore? And yet, tho' the *French* have already got all the *Netherlands*, and also bid fair for *Holland* too, we see those three Protestant Princes, as I say before, don't offer to stir, or concern themselves with our Quarrels, directly, or indirectly; tho' at present common Charity, if they thought we deserved any, should engage them in our Relief.

If Treaty upon Treaty, Engagement upon Engagement, or Negotiations without Number, and all manner of Means and Entreaties could avail; we have done enough to engage all the Powers before-mention'd, as well as others, to be absolutely on our Side; for we were above twenty Years before the War, doing nothing but
making

making Treaties and forming Alliances, at an immense Expence, tho' to no other Purpose as the Events prove, but to shew our Necessities and Weakness, against the time should come of our having any real Occasion; and notwithstanding all we are left to shift for ourselves; for the Queen of *Hungary* and the King of *Sardinia*, can no longer maintain or support their own Quarrels, than while we can supply them with Money; and as to the *Dutch* they never, till now, that the *French* are in the very Bowels of their Country, acted bravely, or as they ought to do, at any time in the present War; neither their Behaviour at *Fontenoy*, or any where else, ever did us any Service, as I have heard a great many brave *English* Officers and Soldiers declare; to whom, I believe, I may safely appeal whether they deserve our Hazarding the Loss of a thousand *Englishmen* to save their whole Country? We may plainly see how much better they Fight now than they have hitherto done, but no Thanks to them, for it's to serve themselves, and to preserve the Riches they have heap'd up, which was equivalent to all other Losses before, in Trading with Safety by Sea, to all Parts of the World, while we were labouring under the insupportable Burden of large Insurances, with the Hazards of being taken by the *French* and *Spaniards*; and also employ'd in defending those Towns and Places, in the *Netherlands*, which they so shamefully
gave

gave up and deserted, as if they had been hired by our Enemies for that Purpose, witness the Town of *Ostend*, on which a Man might have won a Million of Money; for it was next to down right Treason, to say upon the Exchange, or in Company with any of our blind State Biggots, or Puffers, that it could not hold out five or six Months, or indeed, to allow that it could ever be taken; yet this present Great Count *Lowendabl*, the Salamander of the Age, who was employ'd in that Siege, sent his Master of *France* a Message, that upon his Birth-Day, which was but seven Days after, he would make him a Present of the Town, which he faithfully perform'd; but what signified all this? Not a Button, cries our honest Countrymen, for we'll be at the Gates of *Paris* in a whif, for all that; ay, and *Ostend* too, was to be taken again in a few Days by Sea; and thus are the just, and well-meaning People of *England* nourish'd up, from time to time, in monstrous Errors, and more imposed upon, than any others under the Sun, by the Contrivances of those, who can have nothing at Heart, but their own avaricious Views, and to enrich their Families upon the Ruins of their distress'd Country; and notwithstanding all this, and the constant Complaints that are made of the Difficulties we are brought under, by these very People, who have voted us into such burthensome ruinous Foreign Measures; and that,

from

From the Situation they have led us into, they cannot avoid loading us with still, more and more Taxes, to cover and carry on their Designs, and like Men, becoming Bankrupts, to shift off the Evil Day as long as they can; yet, I say, so misled is our unhappy Country, and so deaf to all manner of Advice, as well as blind to their own Interest, that they are a-new, drawn in to entrust the same Managers with their Affairs, and the Disposal of their Properties, for seven Years more to come; which time, I may venture to Prophecy, without some very remarkable Interposition of Providence, will effectually wind up our Bottoms, and finish the Scene of our long conducted Miseries.

It is generally allow'd that whomsoever Heaven marks out for Destruction is first Infatuated; and if we are not so, in the Eyes of the rest of the World, we ought to Praise God that they are as Blind as ourselves; however we have one Comfort on our Sides; that, if severe Chastisement is any Proof that the *Jews* were the favourite People of God, I think we may, by this time, have some Title to his Divine Favour. Our Miscarriages by Sea, during the War, have been great and many, tho' of late they begin to put on a better Aspect, and under that happy Prospect may they go on and succeed; but as to our Land Affairs, all Attempts from the Beginning to this Day have proved quite chimerical

and fruitless; and have been attended with nothing but insupportable Expence, and a sanguinary Slaughter of thousands of our brave Subjects; and if, at the Beginning of this Land War, we were not able to gain any Advantage of the *French*, can we be so distracted as to hope for any now, if we will but reflect a little upon the successful Progress they daily make, and the Inactivity of other Powers with regard to us? Every Body that knows the *Dutch* are convinced that nothing on Earth is so dear to them as their own Interest, from which neither Religion or Party could ever separate them; and had they foreseen what is come to pass, I am apt to think they would scarce have consulted us before they had put a Stop to it; but the sudden and profound Proceedings of the *French*, was so quick upon them, that they had not the least time to consider, or have recourse to their usual Deliberations; for, at that very time, to my own certain Knowledge, the People were in a most violent state of Uneasiness, and had in Fact, began a sort of Rebellion, wherein they committed strange Outrages, and even Murders, upon Magistrates and leading Men, tho' according to their old Cunning, they Hush'd it up: And had not their Madness then ended in being gratified with a Stadtholder, from which they form'd great and mighty Things, and much more than could be reasonably expected, no Body can imagine

gine what lengths their Rage might have carried them to; but as they have since met with nothing but Disappointments, that their fine Towns and Country is, in great part, ruin'd and laid Waste; their impenetrable, never to be taken *Bergen-op-Zoom!* destroy'd and gone, and every thing open to the Will of *France*; what People, in their Senses, will answer for the next Fit of Frenzy that may seize them? Or is it not as likely that they should, as unexpected as before, lay hold of any Proposals for their future Peace and Safety, without waiting the Issue of any new Congress, or regarding the Affairs of their Neighbours, who they perceive to be in as sad a Pickle as themselves? And if *French* Gold is of any Influence among them, as has often been strongly insinuated, the more Fatal the Consequences may still be to *Great-Britain*; whose Treasures are already so miserably drain'd, and sacrificed to Foreign Interests and Purposes, that she is become Necessitous at Home, weak and impotent Abroad, and must, now, submit to the Censure of those Protestant Powers on the Continent, who would never be prevailed upon to join in any of her useless Parades, or rash Attempts.

But, Alas! poor *England*, thou once fairest of Islands, and Mistress of the Ocean, how are all thy Measures cross'd? All thy Dispositions baffled? and, in striving against the Stream, thy Spirits

are so exhausted, that thou art almost ready to sink under thy Misfortunes; for it cannot be denied that nothing favourable, during this Land War, has concurr'd with our wild extravagant Notions; that we have been, and are, striving against the Stream; and in fine, that the Wealth and Spirits of a Nation must, at last, be quite spent, which suffers a continual Waste without Recruit.

There would be no Difference between *France* and *England*, between acknowledging an Arbitrary Government and Nominal Liberty, if we, who call ourselves the Sons of Freedom, were not now and then suffer'd to Reason a little on Publick Affairs, and permitted to tell Truth of what passes; and then, from plain Facts, to draw some likely Conclusions; but whenever a Stop is put to this, as is strongly threaten'd, and that we dare not say what we know, or shew any Sense or Feeling of our Miseries, then, may we bid Adieu to the little Shadow of Freedom that is left; but till that happens, which I hope is impossible, it behoves us to remonstrate our Situation and Grievances, in order to convince our Friends and Country, of our unhappy melancholy Conditions, and to pray our Representatives to intercede with his Majesty for some speedy Redress; which we have the greater Room to hope for, as there are Numbers that cannot believe that he is thoroughly acquainted with the
Nature

Nature of our heavy Burdens and Circumstances ; and that therefore, whenever they shall be made known to him, and explain'd by such proper Persons, it must be next to impossible for us to fail of Success ; for we ought to look upon his Majesty, in the Light of a good King, whose chief Ornament is to Rule well, and to love his Subjects ; who principally regards the true Welfare of his People, and like an indulgent Father, would rather feel the Stings and Torments of Hunger in his own Bowels, than be liable to see the least Demonstration of it in his Children ; which Opinion of his Majesty's Wisdom, and paternal Goodness, animates my Endeavours, tho' they should happen to be ever so much disapproved by any evil Managers whatsoever.

To enumerate all our Misfortunes and Mismanagements, for a few Years past, would swell this small Design to a large Volume ; so that I shall only here and there touch upon a few things, which cannot escape our Memories ; and at the same time leads me on to our present Purpose, upon which all our Attention should be fix'd.

One of the first, and extraordinary Steps that was taken, about thirty Years ago, was to bind us down under the Power and Management of seven Year Parliaments, a very proper essential thing to the carrying on every thing else, that has since been brought about ; that ungenerous
Action

Action of falling upon the *Spanish* Fleet in the Year 1718, without any Declaration of War, when we were sailing along Side of them as Friends, occasion'd most of the bad Blood and Hatred, that has since happen'd, to the Ruin of our best of Trades; and after all this, to send that Noble Fleet of twenty Ships, under Admiral *Hofier*, to lie before *Porto-Bello*, till he, and a great many worthy Commanders, with thousands of brave Sailors died with perfect Grief, seeing their brave Ships rotting away, by their fine Orders not to Fight, is another Piece of such abominable Management, as will never again, I believe, be parallel'd in History; and to which our Misfortunes, at this Day, are chiefly owing: The iniquitous *South-Sea* Scheme was within a few Days of ruining the whole Nation at once, and must be remember'd to the latest Posterity; and to that, for Brevity Sake, let us add the wicked Affair of the Charitable Corporation, which also ruin'd many People and Families: The keeping up of large standing Armies in times of Peace, and the paying Thousands of Foreign Troops, at the same time for doing nothing, are other memorable Acts: The intermedling with Foreign Quarrels, contrary to the Act of Settlement, and his Majesty's leaving us so often, which has occasion'd the spending large Sums of Money Abroad, to the Prejudice of Trade, &c. at Home, has been a Matter of Grief and Concern to the People:

The

The continuing such a Number of Place-men in the House of Commons, sufficient to turn, or overturn, every thing as they please, is a thing long complain'd of, and from which every Body, except such as themselves, wish to be relieved.

Several accumulated Restraints upon Trade, the Non-effectual Methods against the Exportation of our Wool, with a thousand, &c's, are impossible to enter into, any more than the Millions that have been expended in Subsidies, and the Pay of Troops, purely to cover and guard Foreign Dominions, and to preserve new Acquisitions, can be accounted for; so that I shall leave all that is past Remedy as it is; and will end with one weighty and very material Circumstance and Observation, which I hope is worthy the most serious Consideration of every sober judicious Man in *England*. Ever since the Death of Queen *Anne*, tho' we have been in a State of perfect Peace and Tranquillity, till now lately, our Debts, or Taxes, have never been lessen'd; on the contrary, they have been most cruelly encreased, from one Degree to another, that every thing we either eat, drink, or wear, or can almost find a Name for, is Tax'd, and most heavily too; and the very Interest of our Debts comes to three Millions a Year, without ever thinking of the Principal: The Condition we are now plunged into, requires ten Millions a Year to defray the necessary Expences, I believe
it

it will soon appear more, tho' the whole circulating Cash of the Nation is not fourteen Millions; so that, in the end, we must depend wholly on Paper Credit, or nothing; but more especially if we consider that, out of our present Yearly Grants, there is about four Millions of our hard Money sent Abroad, and spent there, without one Shillings worth of any thing in Return, except what the Printer of our Extraordinary Gazettes gets, by supplying us with his most extraordinary and prodigious Accounts of strange and bloody Fights, and miraculous Escapes. And this being the true, and naked State of our dangerous Condition, in as few and plain Words, as I can reduce them to, I leave the Readers to judge, how much we stand in need of some proper Remedies; and whether, as the Distemper is almost too far gone, they should lose a Moment's time in the Application.

Just as I got to this Part of my Story, in comes one of my long and best Acquaintance, a worthy honest old Whig; a Gentleman of good Sense, Honour, and Probity, who would not maintain a wrong Argument out of Prejudice, or contrary to Justice and Reason, for all the World; and asking me what I was about, I begg'd the Favour of him to read it, and give me his Opinion; and having perused it, and paused a little, "Egad, says he, I am very
 " sorry to see so much Truth in it; but I can't
 " tell

tell for my Life what sort of People they
 are that call themselves Whigs now a-days;
 when my Father sat in the House, he said,
 the standing Principles of our old, staunch
 Whigs, was to oppose all kinds of Arbitrary
 Proceedings in every Shape, and all things
 contray to the Constitution, tho' ever so art-
 fully colour'd over, with the specious Pretences
 of Parliament Authority; and it is not calling
 themselves Whigs, or Churchmen, or this, or
 that, or t'other, can ever make them honest
 Men, or Friends to their Country, without
 they act as such; let them do that in Regard
 to the Publick, and we'll easily believe them
 in all other Matters, but not till then; for I
 have seen too much already of those bubbling
 Pretences, so much, that to be ingenuous with
 you, I begin not to care a Straw what Re-
 ligion or Party, any Body is of; my grand
 Query is, now, whether they are Honest or
 not, and as to the rest, that's their Affair;
 for, from what I see, no Jacobites or Papists,
 in the World, could do worse things, than
 what you and I have seen, and known in our
 own time; and sure to call every Man so
 that speaks his Mind freely, tells Truth, and
 and condemns our destructive Measures, is
 both abominable and Stupid; for, tho' there
 is a very wicked Design in it, the Fools little
 consider what Honour they are doing to that

“ Set of Men, by allowing them, in Fact, to
 “ have more Honefty and better Senſe than
 “ themſelves; but abſolutely the People are
 “ Mad, and it almoſt drives me ſo, whenever I
 “ think of their Weakneſs and Follies; and ſo
 “ my good old Friend, God Bleſs you; — But
 “ hold, I had like to forget; Egad this little
 “ Book will make them Bawl at you and call
 “ you God knows what, for that is the Cuſtom
 “ now, to ſupply the Place of Argument; how-
 “ ever, I believe, you and I are alike, and care
 “ not a Pin what any Men can ſay, who are re-
 “ ſolved to ſhut their Eyes, and ſtop their Ears,
 “ againſt plain evident Facts; the Knowledge
 “ of which every Man, of Common Senſe and
 “ Honeſty, ſhould be truly thankful for, as no-
 “ thing can be of more Service to the Publick,
 “ without the leaſt Regard or Diſtinction to
 “ Party, Religion or private Friendſhip; Ho-
 “ neſty, my dear Friend, is moſt certainly the
 “ beſt Policy; and I often wiſh it was the only
 “ eſtabliſh’d Profeſſion, or Religion, among
 “ Princes and States-Men; for then I believe,
 “ in my Conſcience, we ſhould all eaſily agree
 “ about the reſt, in which we too commonly
 “ Diſagree, to ſerve their Ends, without any
 “ Advantage to ourſelves, in Body or Soul; and
 “ ſo, once more, Adieu to you, till I hear how
 “ your Performance is reſiſh’d.”

These open honest Sentiments of my worthy Friend, determined me to conclude with a short Quotation, from a Letter of the truly great and famous *William Penn*, the Quaker *; who, being a Man of fine Parts, Learning, Morality, and strict Goodness, was, by some wicked malicious People, accounted not only a Papist, but a Jesuit, because, like my old Friend before us; he inclined to give all Men, of every Denomination, their just Merit; and in Answer to a Friend's Letter, who very much importuned him to it, he says.

Worthy Friend,

“ IT is now above twenty Years, I thank
 “ God, that I have not been very solicitous
 “ what the World thought of me; for since I
 “ have had the Knowledge of Religion, from a
 “ Principle in myself, the first and main Point,
 “ with me, has been to approve myself in the
 “ Sight of God, thro' Patience and well doing;
 “ so that the World has not had Weight enough
 “ with me, to suffer its good Opinion to raise
 “ me, or its ill Opinion to deject me. And in
 “ Page 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18: The
 “ Business chiefly insisted upon is my Popery,

N. B. Mr. *Penn's* Letter may be seen at the Shop for whom this is Printed.

“ and Endeavours to promote it. I do say then
 “ that I am not only no Jesuit but no Papist;
 “ and which is more, I never had any Tempta-
 “ tion upon me to be so, either from Doubts in
 “ my own Mind, about the way I Profess, or
 “ from the Discourses or Writings of any of that
 “ Religion; and in the Presence of Almighty
 “ God, I do declare, That the King * did never
 “ once, directly or indirectly attack me, or
 “ tempt me on that Subject, the many Years I
 “ have had the Advantage of a free Access to
 “ him; so unjust as well as fordidly false, are
 “ all those Stories of the Town.

“ The only Reason that I can apprehend they
 “ have to repute me a Roman Catholick, is my
 “ frequent going to *Whiteball*, a Place no more
 “ forbid to me than to the rest of the World,
 “ who, yet, it seems, find much fairer Quárter.
 “ I have almost continually had one Business or
 “ other there for our Friends, whom I ever
 “ served with a steady Sollicitation, thro’ all
 “ times, since I was of their Communion. I
 “ had also a great many personal good Offices to
 “ do, upon a Principle of Charity, for People
 “ of all Perswasions; thinking it a Duty to
 “ improve the little Interest I had for the good
 “ of those that needed it, especially the Poor. I
 “ say then, solemnly, that I am so far from

* King *James* the Second.

“ having

“ having been Bred at *St. Omers*, and having
 “ received Orders at *Rome*, that I never was at
 “ either Place, nor do I know any Body there,
 “ or had I ever a Correspondency with any
 “ Body in those Places, which is another Story
 “ invented against me. I have not so much as
 “ look’d into any Chapel of the Roman Re-
 “ ligion, and consequently not the King’s; tho’
 “ a common Curiosity warrants it daily to People
 “ of all Perswasions. And once, for all, I do
 “ say, that I am a Protestant Dissenter, and to
 “ that Degree such, that I challenge the most
 “ celebrated Protestant of the *English* Church,
 “ or any other, upon that Head, be he Layman,
 “ or Clergyman, in Publick or Private; for I
 “ would have all such People know, ’tis not
 “ impossible for a true Protestant Dissenter, to
 “ be Dutiful, Thankful, and Serviceable to the
 “ King, tho’ he be of the Roman Catholick
 “ Communion. *We hold not our Property, or*
 “ *Protection, from him by our Perswasion, and*
 “ *therefore his Perswasion should not be the Measure*
 “ *of our Allegiance. I am sorry to see so many*
 “ *that seem fond of the Reformed Religion, by*
 “ *their Disaffection to him, recommend it so Ill.*
 “ Whatever Practices of Roman Catholicks we
 “ might reasonably Object against, and no Doubt
 “ but such there are, yet he has disclaim’d, and
 “ reprehended those Ill-things, by his declared
 “ Opinion

“ Opinion against Persecution ; by the Ease in
 “ which he actually Indulges all Dissenters, and
 “ by the Confirmation he offers in Parliament
 “ for the Security of the Protestant Religion,
 “ and Liberty of Conscience ; and in his Honour,
 “ as well as in my own Defence, I am obliged
 “ in Conscience, to say, that he has ever de-
 “ clared to me it was his Opinion ; and on all
 “ Occasions, when Duke, he never refused me
 “ the repeated Proofs of it, as often as I had
 “ any poor Sufferers for Conscience Sake, to
 “ solicit his Help for. But some may be apt to
 “ say, why not any Body else as well as I ? Why
 “ must I have the preferable Access to other
 “ Dissenters, if not a Papist ? I answer, I know
 “ not that it is so ; but this I know, that I
 “ have made it my Province and Business, I
 “ have follow’d and pressed it : I took it for my
 “ Calling and Station, and have kept it above
 “ these sixteen Years ; and which is more, if I
 “ may say it without Vanity, or Reproach,
 “ wholly at my own Charges too. To this let
 “ me add, the Relation my * Father had to
 “ this King’s Service ; his particular Favour in
 “ getting me Released out of the *Tower* † of
 “ *London* in Sixty nine. My Father’s humble

* He was a great Admiral.

† Mr. *Penn* was Confined in the *Tower*, in *Charles* the Second’s time, for being a Quaker.

“ Request

“ Request to him, upon his Death-Bed, to
 “ Protect me from the Inconveniencies and
 “ Troubles my Perswasion might expose me to;
 “ his friendly Promise to do it, and exact Per-
 “ formance of it, from the Moment I address’d
 “ myself to him: I say, when all this is con-
 “ sider’d, any Body that has the least Pretence
 “ to good Nature, Gratitude or Generosity, must
 “ needs know how to interpret my Access to
 “ the King.”

And, in regard to all other ridiculous Stuff
 that was Trumpt up against him, according to
 our present Custom, against all worthy brave
 independent Men, who act openly and with Ho-
 nour for the Interest of their Country; he adds,
 “ This is just as probable, as it is true, that I
 “ died a Jesuit six Years ago in *America*. And
 “ unless calling at *Whitehall* once a Day, upon
 “ many Occasions, or my not being turn’d out
 “ of nothing, for that no Office is, be the Evi-
 “ dence of my Compliance in disagreeable things,
 “ I know not what else can, with any Truth, be
 “ alledged against me: However, one thing I
 “ know, that I have every where most religi-
 “ ously observed, and endeavour’d, in Conversa-
 “ tion with Persons of all Ranks and Opinions,
 “ to allay Heats, and moderate Extremities even
 “ in the Politicks. ’Tis below me to be more
 “ particular; but I am sure it has been my En-
 “ deavour;

“ deavour, that if we could not all meet upon
 “ a Religious Bottom, at least we might meet
 “ upon a Civil one, the good of *England*, which
 “ is the Common Interest of King and People;
 “ that he might be Great by Justice, and we
 “ free by Obedience; distinguishing rightly on
 “ the one Hand, between Duty and Slavery;
 “ and on the other between Liberty and Licen-
 “ tiousness.”

I cannot proceed here, without wishing sin-
 cerely, that the Actions of all the Right Reve-
 rends in the World, and their Followers, had
 the Appearance of such Noble, Generous, Dis-
 interested Sentiments as these; and that, like this
 good Quaker, who had great worldly Opportu-
 nities, they would despise the Mammon of Un-
 righteousness, and study nothing but to do good,
 and render Justice to all Men; and by their pure
 Example, and just Instructions, lead the People
 into those Paths that tend most to the Honour
 of God, and the true Service of their King and
 Country; without which they may as well pro-
 fess themselves Mahometans as Christians, except
 with regard to their wicked, scandalous Prefer-
 ments, and mean worldly Grandeur.

“ But, alas, says Mr. *Penn*, I am not without
 “ my Apprehensions of the Cause of this Beha-
 “ viour towards me, and in this I perceive we
 “ agree; I mean my constant Zeal for an Im-
 “ partial

“ partial Liberty of Conscience ; but if that be
 “ it, the Cause is too good to be in Pain about
 “ it ; I ever understood that to be the Natural
 “ Right of all Men ; and that he that had a
 “ Religion, without it, his Religion was none
 “ of his own ; for what is not the Religion of
 “ a Man’s Choice, is the Religion of him that
 “ imposes it ; so that Liberty of Conscience is
 “ the first Step to have a Religion. Upon the
 “ whole Matter, I must say I love *England* ; I
 “ ever did so ; and that I am not in her Debt ;
 “ I never valued Time, Money, or Kindred, to
 “ serve her, and do her Good ; no Party could
 “ ever bias me to her Prejudice, nor any Per-
 “ sonal Interest oblige me in her Wrong ; for I
 “ always abhor’d discounting private Favours at
 “ the Publicks Cost. If therefore, an Universal
 “ Charity, if the asserting an Universal Liberty
 “ of Conscience, if doing to others as one would
 “ be done by, and an open avowing, and steady
 “ practising of these things, in all times, to all
 “ Parties, will justly lay a Man under the Re-
 “ flections of being a Jesuit, or Papist, of any
 “ Rank, I must not only submit to the Character
 “ but embrace it too ; and I care not who knows ;
 “ that I can wear it with more Pleasure, than it
 “ is possible for them, with any Justice, to give
 “ it me ; for these are corner Stones, and Prin-
 “ ciples with me, and I am scandalized at all

“ Buildings that have them not for their Foun-
 “ dations; for Religion itself is an empty Name
 “ without them: Let us not flatter ourselves;
 “ we can never be the better for our Religion,
 “ if our Neighbour be the worse for it. Our
 “ Fault is, we are apt to be mighty hot upon
 “ speculative Errors, and break all Bounds in
 “ our Repentments; but we let Practical ones
 “ pass without Remark, if not without Repen-
 “ tance; as if a Mistake about an obscure Pro-
 “ position of Faith were a greater Evil, than
 “ the Breach of an undoubted Precept. And in
 “ Page 21. The Diseases of this Kingdom is
 “ Sin, Impiety against God, and want of Cha-
 “ rity to Men; and while this Guilt lies at our
 “ Door, Judgment cannot be far off.”

Here ends, as much as I shall trouble the
 Readers with, of Mr. *Penn's* Letter; and I am
 pretty certain, tho' he seems to deplore our Con-
 dition, at that time, which is near sixty Years
 ago, we did not stand so much in need of it as
 at present; for, in the first Place, we were not
 a single Shilling in Debt; and as to Taxes, no
 Body knew the Meaning of the Word: However
 I take him to be a little Prophetick, as well as a
 just upright Man; and that what he calls the
 Judgment, that was not far off, must be our
 heavy Debts and Taxes, that soon succeeded, and
 have

have been ever since flowing upon us; which, in my Opinion, is a very heavy Judgment indeed, as it seems to have no end; but still we ought to struggle while we have any Strength left, and not lie down, like meer Brutes, and die under our Burdens; therefore let us vigorously rally together all our Endeavours, and the little Means which remains, that of applying to our new chosen Guardians; and to insist, as much as is consistent with our Duty and Interest, as *Englishmen*, upon their procuring us a Redress of bad Measures, and the insupportable Burden of our Debts and Taxes; which being the only Choice we have now left, cannot be thought unseasonable, at the opening of a New Parliament, by any Men of Integrity, Disinterestedness, or Patriotism, especially, as it affords all, who are well inclined, an early, agreeable Opportunity, of convincing the World that they have yet Virtue and Honour enough to bear up, with true *British* Zeal, against all Temptations; and that they are resolved not to suffer the Publick Interest to be any longer neglected, our Wealth exhausted, our Honour prostituted, or our ancient noble Independency of Parliament invaded; which brave honest Resolutions would, once more, make us Glorious, Triumphant, and dreaded Abroad; beloved, respected, and envy'd at Home, and our Alliance, as heretofore, courted; instead of

becoming mean Petitioners, or purchasing the Friendship, of little petit Powers, who are in no Condition to assist us, in Reality, but rather make a Market of our Necessities when we have most Occasion—; and as to the *Dutch*, I think they have so much at present upon their Hands that all the Assistance we can afford them is not sufficient;—will nothing convince us? Don't we see that notwithstanding, the united Force, of *English, Dutch, Hanoverians, Austrians, Hessians, Croats, Pandours, Hussars*, and the Devil knows who besides, that the *French* have not only taken *Sluice*, and several other Garrisons, but even their never to be taken *Bergen-op-Zoom*? And if they have done this already, besides beating us in the Field, this Campaign, what is it they may not do, next Campaign, when they have no such Bars in the way? and I very much Question whether we do not yet find that they will give us a parting Blow, before they go into Winter-Quarters, when we little think of it; but then says our wicked Mercenaries, and Puffers, who must absolutely be employ'd to delude the People, *What signifies Bergen-op-Zoom, and all the rest? Have not we Breda, and Maestricht still, &c. &c?* Damn the Dogs, we'll Shew 'em the Odds of it next Year; Yes! and I remember we said the very same before we lost the *Netherlands*, or the *French* got into *Holland*; but sure

we ought now to be convinced that our Notions were very Wild and Extravagant, or that we suffer ourselves to be grossly Imposed upon; and then give me leave to add, that, it's my sincere Opinion, if all the unconquer'd Towns in *Holland*, were join'd in one, the *French* from their present Situation will have them, if they set in Earnest about it; for, considering what they have done this *Summer*, when all these grand Obstacles were in the way, there is scarce a Mob, who can be so Mad, as to question their being able to do much more, next Season, when they have no such Difficulties to struggle with; yet, as plain as this is, I am sensible it will not be allow'd; but I will furnish you with what would go down as glib as Oil, as unlikely as it may appear to any Man of common Sense, and the asserting of which might give me a good Chance of being approved, even by Men in Power, viz. ————— *The Dutch, before next Campaign, will have another Place as Strong, or Stronger, than Bergen-op-Zoom; the King of France cannot maintain this War another Year, notwithstanding all his Success, and is ready to agree to whatever Peace we please; the Spaniards, they are going to break off with France, and sign a separate Peace with us upon our own Terms;*

as

as to the thirty Thousand Russians, that have been so many Years on their March to help us, tho' they are not yet arrived, we are sure of having them next Year; Aye! and the King of Prussia too, as well as other Powers, will certainly join us at last; the King of Sardinia, he is working his way to Paris; and as to Genoa, that we are sure of, for all what's past; our Disappointments this Year is not worth mentioning, for both we, and our Confederates, shall be Stronger, and better prepared, next Campaign than ever; they are quite in high Spirits in Holland, no Murmurings among them, and as to what the French have done hitherto it signifies not a Rush; and in a Word, we are in the most happy flourishing Condition under the Sun, to the Terror of France and all our Enemies; all this I am certain, from Experience, would be more easily Believed than any thing, ever so Demonstrable, to the contrary: For if an Angel from Heaven, was sent to Convince us, I question whether he might not be order'd away as an Impudent lying Jacobite, or an Independent impartial Whig. However, I am still in Hopes we have a sufficient Number of Honest, Free-Born Britons, who will be govern'd by Facts, guided
by

by Reason, free from Corruption and Prejudice; that they will open their Eyes, and incline their Hearts, to the true, and only Interest of their bleeding Country, preferable to all other wicked, scandalous Pretences whatsoever; without which, we are in a fair way of Perishing by our own invincible Obstinacy and Infatuation.

F I N I S.

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