THE PRESENT STATE OF POLITICKS IN EUROPE.

WITH

Some Observations on the present Posture of our own Affairs.

—Amato quaramus seria ludo. Hor.

LONDON:
Printed for T. Cooper, at the Globe in Pater-Nofer-(Row, and A. Dodd, at the Peacock without Temple-Bar. 1739. [Price One Shilling]
E have long been contesting our Rights of Traffick with Spain in the American Seas, and, for some Years, have made Remonstrances, which have been of little purpose towards gaining us a just Satisfaction for our much injured Merchants. The Spanish Court having, by the many Delays of its Ministers, or evasive Tricks of the Governors of the American Plantations, spent several Years in making fruitless Enquiries; by which Conduct, we judged, they never intended us any; and we have since plainly seen, how fairly we have been deluded by them.
Our Merchants, by Experience, found, that altho' Commisaries were appointed between Us and Spain, who were to settle the Affair to the Satisfaction of both Parties, yet they broke up without coming to any Conclusion; and altho' this Nation had been at a vast Expence in sending those Commisaries to Spain, yet, at their breaking up, our Merchants were as much unsatisfied, as if they had never been appointed.

It is true, they met divers Times at Madrid; but their Debates were so hot, about settling the respective Rights of the two Nations in the American Seas, that all Points remained in Statu Quo.

Thus the Time expir'd, and nothing being done, Mr. Keene, our Minister there, was to repeat his Instances as often as he saw Opportunity offered.

At length, France generously offered us their Mediation; for which they, in a particular Manner, deserve our Esteem and Regard; and, as disinterested Mediators between Spain and Us, drew up the following Plan, which the wise Cardinal communicated to the Ministers of Great Britain, Spain and Holland. The Plan was as follows:
I. That the King of Spain shall grant a Freedom of Commerce to the English in all his Territories in America.

II. That the South-Sea Company shall be permitted to send their Ships thither, without being molested on any Pretence whatsoever.

III. That the King of Great Britain, for these Advantages obtained for his Subjects, shall restore Gibraltar to Spain.

IV. That this Restitution and Freedom of Commerce shall be secured to each in the strongest Manner irrevocably.

This Plan had been, undoubtedly, concerted between France and Spain in private, before it was thus publickly communicated to the three Ministers. By which we may plainly perceive, how France was designing to contribute towards our Ruin; for, should Gibraltar be given up to Spain, or any other Nation, it would be putting in their Power the total Sovereignty of the Seas, which now we alone can command with our Fleet of Ships, against any Combination of Powers whatsoever.

But, alas! I must confess, by our pacifickDisposition, we at present possess little more than the Shadow of that Sovereignty.
Our Ministers, 'tis true, at that Time rejected French Mediation, upon such dishonourable Terms; nor, indeed, could they accept it:

For, in my humble Opinion, his Majesty would never consent to give up such an important Fort, without the Consent of his Parliament.

Spain endeavours to insinuate, That his late Majesty promised to deliver it up to them; which I am far from believing: But suppose they had that Promise, or a distant Promise of it, his present Majesty is not obliged to fulfil his Predecessor's Promises in every Respect; nor, perhaps, may it be judged proper in Matters of State so to do.

A King was, in antient Times, looked upon as God's Vicegerent upon Earth; his Words were observed as sacred; and his prudent Commands punctually obey'd.

But in these more modern Times, in relation to State Affairs, where the Wisdom of his Ministers, skill'd in Politicks, require it; such Words, Promises and Treaties, are frequently dispensed with.

But the more is the Pity; for often times War, and much Blood-shed, follows Breach of
of Treaties; which seldom end but with great Disadvantage to both Parties, other neighbouring Nations taking the Opportunity of enriching themselves at their Expence.

However, France and Spain has no Room to exclaim against any of their Neighbours for Breach of Treaty, since it has been their constant Practice for some Ages past, could they get the least Advantage by it:

For Instance; their seizing upon the Emperor's Dominions in Italy, and placing Don Carlos upon the Throne, was contrary to the Law and Nature of Nations.

However, it was thought consistent with their Politicks; to which, according to our modern Way of Reasoning, every thing else ought to give way.

After this Conquest, Don Carlos, in order to give a Sanction to his Possessions, has since several times demanded the eldest Arch-Duchess in Marriage of the Emperor, which his Imperial Majesty, in his great Wisdom, has as often thought fit to refuse.

For what Reasons, we will not pretend to determine: but certain it is, That on the Day such a Marriage takes place, the Emperor gives to Don Carlos a Receipt in full for those
those Dominions his Neapolitan Majesty is now in Possession of, by Right of Conquest.

Let us now resume our former Head of Discourse, from which we have digressed, and return to the present Behaviour of the Spaniards towards us.

It is evident, since the Spanish Court have not regarded the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns; but, on the contrary, have violated them in an unwarrantable Manner, and behaved more like Pyrates, than a civilized Nation, towards us; we should oblige them, by the Force of our Arms, to come to reasonable Terms, since the Honour of our Nation lies at Stake.

In a late Reign it was moved in Parliament, that Gibraltar and Port Mahon might, by an Act made for that Purpose, be for ever annex'd to the Crown of England:

Which the Ministry, at that Time, thought not fit to consent to; alledging, That our Affairs were not then in so good a Situation as could be wished, and therefore desired it might be put off to a more proper Time: which Time, I hope, is now near a Crisis.

For when once such an Act has passed the Royal Assent, there will be an End to Spain's Pretensions.
Pretenfions to those two important Places, which now are but a continual Stumbling-block to them.

However, should the Wisdom of Parliament not think proper to pass such an Act, Spain can never, with any Reason, expect them again, without we hereafter should have a very dastardly Ministry indeed: and, from such a Ministry, good Lord deliver us.

At present we have no Reason to fear any thing like it, while we are under the Government of so good a King, and are possessed of a Ministry, who have their Country's Welfare more at Heart.

We also have the Happiness of a wise Legislature, who will not suffer any important Affair to pass their Assent, without mature Deliberation.

It was formerly a received Maxim in Spain, Peace with England, and War with every other Power in Europe.

And, while that Maxim was observed by them, both Nations reap'd great Advantages by a free, uninterrupted Trade, one with another: But since a neighbouring Power has had any Influence in Spanish Councils, Affairs have taken a quite different Turn, and the Spanish
Spanish Court seem to be so blinded, as not to know their real Interest.

For, certainly, the Interests of England and Spain, ought to be inseparable; and, were those two Powers to hold together in perfect Harmony, they might be able not only to preserve the Ballance, but prescribe Laws, to all Europe.

As, on the contrary, if Spain still continues obstinate, and refuses to make us Satisfaction, and will not give us Security for a free Trade for the future, is it not in the Power of a King of England, when He sees a Nation regardless of Treaties, his Friendship, and every thing else? Is it not in His Power, I say, to send a Fleet of Ships, with a sufficient Number of Marines aboard them, to seize the Spanish Galleons, and take Possession of some of their Plantations in America, and pay His own Merchants their just Demands, and Himself for the extraordinary Expenses His Majesty had been at, in His Naval Preparations, &c? And what then could Spain, or any other Nation, do in their Behalf, while We had a powerful Fleet of, perhaps, Two hundred Sail of Men of War in the Mediterranean? They must, at last, be content to agree to such Terms, as we then would be pleas’d to impose, or become Bankrupts with other Nations, who are concerned
cerned in the Plate Fleet, which it is in the Power of Great Britain to keep from ever arriving at Cadiz.

If so, will any Person then pretend to say, that it is the Interest of Spain to refuse an Accommodation with Great Britain, when neither France, her grand Ally, nor any other Power in Europe, could keep us from forcing a proper Satisfaction from them, whenever the Honour of our Country demands it?

Was it not thro' Fear of a British Fleet, that the Galleons were detained at the Havanna the last Year? And, therefore, should his Majesty, if full Satisfaction be not speedily granted us, think proper to send an English Squadron to cruize on the Coasts of Spain, the next Summer, the Galleons would then be farther detained, by an Order from the Court of Madrid, rather than run the Risque of being taken by our Ships.

What a Situation would their Affairs then be in? What Power would dare to attack an English Squadron?

Should his Majesty take such a Step as this, instead of other Nations engaging in an unequal War by assailing Spain to repel Force by Force, they must rather be obliged to demand Satisfaction for us, that the Shares
of their own Merchants might be no longer detained thro’ the Terror of our Fleet.

And in this could our Court be fairly justified; nay, even in seizing their Galleons on the first Opportunity. Since they began the Piracy on their Side by specious Pretences, we, in Justice to our distressed Merchants, might lay hold of such an Opportunity to repay them, and return Spain the Overplus.

According to the Levitical Law, an Eye for an Eye, and a Tooth for a Tooth.

This would be repaying them in their own Coin.

But I hope there will be no Necessity for any such Proceedings, since almost every Point is now happily settled; and, I hope, to the Satisfaction of our Merchants.

I, however, thought fit to enlarge a little upon the Strength of our Naval Force, because another Power endeavours to insinuate mighty Things to the Court of Spain, in our Prejudice.

On the other Hand, could not Spain expect great Advantages from our Friendship with them? Would we not at all times be ready to assist them, should any other Power attempt to encroach upon them? Do they not
not reap great Advantages by their Commerce with us? Would their Traffick in the Mediterranean be at all interrupted?

'Tis plain his Majesty does not desire to enlarge his Dominions, and consequently has no ambitious Views. If they will strictly keep to the Tenor of the several Treaties subsisting between us, we shall do the same on our Part.

What Room is there then for Spain to imagine itself safe without the Friendship of Great Britain, in whose Power it is daily to disturb their Tranquility. They may flatter themselves with other Friendships, but they could be of very little Service, should Britannia take upon her to chastise that Nation for their Temerity. However,

As an honourable Peace is greatly preferable to a War, his Majesty has, with the Advice of His Ministry, thought fit to enter into a new Treaty with the Court of Spain; by which our Rights are to be asserted, and ample Reparation to be made, agreeable to the Resolutions of His Parliament the last Session.

By this new Convention, it is reported, That all British Ships shall be liable to be search'd, if they are found within less than two Leagues from the Spanish Colonies.

C 2. That
That, to avoid the frequent Impositions of the Governors of those Colonies, in their illegal Method of taking and condemning our Ships, under various Pretences; all Guard de Costa's shall first produce their Commissions, which shall be from the King of Spain himself, and not from the Spanish Governors.

The Affair of the South-Sea Company's annual Ships, was not, a few Days ago, determined. We hear the King of Spain has offered our Merchants 75 l. per Cent. Sterling; but whether that will be accepted, is not yet known.

Our Right to cut Logwood in the Bay of Campeachy, and the Honduras, is to be settled by Commissaries appointed for that Purpose.

The Spanish Governors finding their piratical Trade but short-lived (since the Court of Great Britain was determin'd to do itself Justice at all Events; and their own Court resolved not to wink at their Proceedings for the future) thought proper to make a good Use of the little Time they had left, and accordingly took some of our Merchant-Men the last Summer, while the Preliminary Articles between Us and Spain were adjusting at Madrid.

One
One of which we have the following particular Account, which we believe cannot be contradicted.

Extract of a Letter from Capt. Jason Vaughan, of the Sarah, dated from Fort Catalina, in Cadiz, December 4, 1738. N. S.

"I Sail'd from Port Royal, in Jamaica, the first of June last, bound to Bristol; but on the 29th of the same Month, being in the Latitude of 24 Degrees 28 Minutes Cape Anthony, bearing South and by East, distant 55 Leagues, I was chased by a Spanish Man of War, who soon came up with me; and having fir'd at me several times, I brought to. They order'd me to send my Boat on Board, which I accordingly did; but they detained my Men, and sent eighteen of theirs into the Boat, who order'd me out of my Ship, with all my Men, on board their own, which carried us to the Havannah, where my Ship came some Days after. I was there detained a Prisoner three Months, and then put on board one of their Ships, and brought to this Port, and from thence to this Castle. The Consul here offered to be Security for my Appearance, if I could have the Liberty of walking about the City; but that Fa-
your could not be obtain'd. So I have, 
by this Post, wrote to the British Minister 
at Madrid.

My Ship and Cargo was worth 9000 l. 
Sterling; the latter was fold before I left 
the Havannah, for about the twentieth 
Part of what it cost; and the Ship was 
also put up for Sale.

P. S. I was bound from Jamaica, and 
was on my Passage home, when taken, 
and had not been in any Port.

Thus it appears, that this Ship was unjustly taken, and illegally condemned; for which the Aiders and Abettors of that Capture will, I hope, be fined to the full Value of the Ship and Cargo, and likewise be punished as they richly deserve.

If I am rightly informed, some of the Bristol Merchants are now on the Road for London, in order to petition the Parliament for the Redress of this Grievance.

Our Nation, of late Years, has had great Reason to watch the Motions of the neighbouring Powers.

Two Years ago, when fresh Difficulties were often started by the Court of Spain, to retard the Evacuation of Tuscany, it was reported,
ported, that the Spaniards intended to attack Gibraltar and Port-Mahon. This Report was, at that Time, the more believed, as Warlike Preparations were then carried on in all the Ports of Spain with the utmost Vigor. But, at length, that Design was happily discovered by the Vigilance of Mr. Keene at Madrid. It seems that Spain, join'd with France, should attack Gibraltar, the Dutch be engaged to stand neuter; and when that important Fort was securely in their Possession, Spain having created a Misunderstanding between England and Holland, and seperated the Interests of those two Powers, was to attack the Low Countries belonging to the Dutch, well knowing, that after they had refused their Assistance to us, we should naturally deny them any Succours. By which Means they hoped their Ends would be accomplished.

This Scheme was said to be performed by the Queen of Spain, Don Joseph Patinho, Monsieur Chavelin and Monsieur Vaugrenant, to divert the King of Spain from abdicating the Throne: but the Death of the Spanish Prime Minister, and the breaking open of Monsieur Vaugrenant's strong Box, happening at that Juncture, together with the Disgrace of Monsieur Chavelin, and recalling Monsieur Vaugrenant, put an End to the Execution of that Project.
The King of France and Cardinal Fleury, were said to be ignorant of this Scheme.

Much about that Time, a Quarrel arose between the Spaniards and Portuguese, the latter having taken a Fort from the former. Upon which our Court, well knowing the Effects of Spanish Resentment, or rather the ambitious Views of the Queen of Spain, sent a Squadron of Men of War, under the Command of Sir John Norris, to preserve that Kingdom from the Sacrifice intended.

The Spanish Court, upon Advice of the Arrival of an English Fleet at Lisbon, seemed greatly alarmed. An Accommodation was offered, which they at first refused to accept, till the Departure of our Squadron; but finding us firmly attach'd to our good Ally, and resolved to see Justice done him, at length, thro' the Mediation of England, France and Holland, the Court of Spain entered into a Treaty for accommodating all Differences with Portugal. Thus that Affair was amicably and honourably adjusted; all Hospitalities ceas'd, and the respective Rights of the two Nations in America effectually secured by that Treaty. And after the three mediating Powers had guarantee'd the same, our Fleet set Sail for London.
Let us now examine a little into the singular Views of the Court of France for these two Years past.

When the Troubles were in Poland about the Choice of a King, France supported Stanislaus with all her Might, and solemnly vow'd never to lay down her Arms, 'till he was firmly fixed on the Throne of Poland.

Accordingly, several French Regiments were sent thither on his Behalf, which had smart Engagements with the Troops of the Emperor and the Czarina, who espoused the Cause of the Elector of Saxony.

The French Troops, under Pretence of diverting the Emperor from supporting the Elector's Interest, laid Siege to several Cities upon the Rhine, and took Possession of some of them, particularly the Cities of Philippsburg, Fort Kehl and Treves: But it afterwards appeared, that their real Intentions were, by that Stratagem, to get Possession of part of his Imperial Majesty's Dominions, in order to exchange them for the Dutchies of Barr and Lorrain; which afterwards plainly appear'd.

For, as soon as the Emperor seemed inclinable to grant unto Stanislaus those two Dutchies, upon the Surrender of Philippsburg,
Fort-Kehl and Treves, King Stanislaus’s Right to Poland was in a manner given up by France, or, at best, she consented that Augustus should mount the Throne, on Condition that Homage should be done to Stanislaus, as titular King of Poland: that the two Duchies of Barr and Lorrain should be settled upon King Stanislaus for Life, as an Equivalent for Poland; and, after his Decease, to be annexed to the Crown of France for ever.

However, notwithstanding the Disposition made by Treaty, King Stanislaus enjoys no more than the Title of Duke of Lorrain and Barr, being neither in Possession of those Dominions, nor having any Share in the Administration of Justice, or other publick Affairs; every thing is directed by the Court of France, and his most Christian Majesty, by his Collectors General, receives all the Revenues of those Duchies, which amount to Seven Millions of Livres per Annum.

The Pension of King Stanislaus, which was fixed at Two Millions of Livres, at his Return from Poland, has been only augmented to Two Millions and an Half, since his going to Lorrain.

This Cession to France, gave great Uneasiness to neighbouring Princes, who feared some bad Consequences might hereafter attend it.
Another Affair in which that Court seems greatly interested, is in Relation to the Dutchies of Juliers and Bergue; the provisional Possession whereof they insist of Right belongs to the House of Sultzbach; which is greatly opposed by the King of Prussia, who also claims a Right to the same, and is determined to maintain it by Force of Arms.

The King of Poland has consented to give up his Right to the Prince of Sultzbach for an Equivalent in Money: But his Prussian Majesty is resolved to accept of no Equivalent.

However, his Prussian Majesty has made a Proposal to the Court of Vienna, that to prevent any Rupture, on the Demise of the Elector Palatine, a Council of Regency might be established in Juliers and Bergue, consisting of half Protestants, and half Roman Catholics.

That the Palatine Troops should retire, and be succeeded by Swiss, or other neutral Troops of the two Religions, till this Affair could be accommodated.

That if this Status Quetiis is not accepted, his Majesty will have a Right to protest before God and Man against a contrary Proceeding.
The Emperor, Kings of France and Great Britain, and the States General, are the four mediating Powers to settle this Affair, and several Conferences have been held at the Hague for that Purpose.

The Emperor and the King of France, has greatly press'd the King of Great Britain, and the States General, to enter into a formal Guarantee of those two Dutchies, in favour of the Prince of Sultzbach, and to oblige the King of Prussia to approve a provisional Possession of those Territories; to which the two latter Powers refused to consent, alledging, that by so doing, they might run the Risque of greatly embarrasing their Affairs, and engaging in a destructive War.

The King of France then proposed, that, as the King of Prussia had defired neutral Troops might be put into those Dutchies at the Death of the Elector Palatine, till the Succession should be decided; and as the Circumstances of his Imperial Majesty will not permit him to send his Troops, and his Britannic Majesty, or the States General, would be unwilling to take upon themselves the Expence of maintaining Troops there; his most Christian Majesty, to shew his Disinterestedness, offers to put in these Dutchies a Body of his own Troops, which shall
shall conform to the same Conditions as any other Troops would have been subject to.

Which Offer, neither the Court of Great Britain, nor the States of Holland, seem to approve of.

And, indeed, that Affair might soon be decided, when once those Dutchies were possessed by the French Troops.

The King of Prussia, finding the Interest of France contrary to his own, since the French Ambassador at the Hague made no scruple of declaring openly the Rights of the Prince of Sultzbach, a few Days ago recall'd his Ambassador from the Court of France; at which that Court was greatly alarm'd, and made a formal Recantation, alledging, that his most Christian Majesty had no other View than to preserve the Publick Tranquility, on the Demise of the Elector Palatine; that he would act candidly and impartially thro' the whole Affair, without any Regard to Interest; and therefore desired, that these his most Christian Majesty's Intentions might be made known to the King of Prussia.

Now, in order to give my Readers an Idea of the different Claims to those two Territories, I shall beg leave to insert the following Account from a Book lately published, intitled, The Present State of Germany.
"John Williams, last Duke of Cleves, "Jullers, Bergue, &c. dying without issue "in 1609, left four Sifters, who were mar- "ried to the Elector of Brandenbourg, the "Duke of Neubourg (Ancestor to the pre- "sent Elector Palatine) the Duke of Deux- "ponts, and the Marquis of Burgow. The "first, having married the eldest Sister, "claimed the whole Succession. The second "form'd the same Pretensions, because the "eldest Sister died before her Brother, and "his Wife was the Eldest of the surviving "Sisters. The other two insisted on an e- "qual Partition to be divided among the "four Sisters. Besides those Princes, the "Elector of Saxony set on Foot an old Pre- "tenstion; and the Duke of Nevers did the "same. And, last of all, the Emperor insis- "ted, that those Countries should be seque- "trer'd in his Hands, and disposed of as he "adjudg'd proper: But his Son, Archduke "Leopold, whom he sent to take Possession in "his Name, was drove out by the Elector "of Brandenbourg, and the Duke of Neu- "bourg.

"Those two Princes only maintain'd their "Claim by Arms; the former being assisted "by the Dutch, and the latter by the "Spaniards, who were then in Possession "of the Netherlands. The Dutch Army "was commanded by Prince Maurice of Nas-"
and the Spanish, by the Marquiss of Spinola; so that (a thing which, perhaps, never before happen'd) the States and the Spaniards made War upon one another, in the Name of their Allies, though the Truce that had been lately made, still continued betwixt themselves. There was not so much as one Blow given on either Side. The two Armies industriously avoided meeting one another. The Campaigns were spent in taking Towns; so that the most diligent of those two great Generals, was he who made the greatest Progress. Upon one's getting first to a Place, the other did nothing to hinder its being taken; but bent his March full speed to another Place, and seized it, which he kept by Virtue of his being the first Comer.

During these Things, a Congress was held at Zanten, in order to an amicable Accomodation betwixt the chief Claimants; at which the Ammbassadors of France, Great Britain, Spain, and the States General, assisted; but this came to nothing. At last Brandenbourg and Neubourg made an Agreement, and divided these Dominions between themselves; the former had the Dutchy of Cleves, and the Counties of Mark and Ravensburg; and the latter, the Dutchies of Juliers and Bergue, with the small Territory of Ravenstein.
"Under this Agreement the two Electors of Brandenbourg and Palatine, have lived quietly ever since: But the present Elector Palatine being the last direct Male descendant of the House of Neubourg, has nominated for his Successor the Prince of Sultzbach, the nearest of Kin to him, by a collateral Branch of the Neubourg Family; which, however, proceeds not from the Lady, by whom the Palatine Family posses Juliers and Bergue—Indeed this young Prince, strictly speaking, is not related to his electoral Highness.

"The King of Prussia (who is also Elector of Brandenbourg) forms his Pretensions of succeeding, in Right of his maternal Ancestor, in the Failure of Heirs in the Elector Palatine. These Pretensions are strengthened by a Family Treaty betwixt the Houses of Brandenbourg and Neubourg, of mutual Succession to the whole Dominions of the last Duke of Cleves, on the Failure of either of their Male Issue: And this Treaty was renewed in 1670. To this last, his Electoral Highness perhaps may reply, that his Predecessors could not make such a Treaty; and that he had as good a Right to annul it, as they had to make it.

"To
"To disappoint his Prussian Majesty as far as possible, and to procure to the Prince of Sultzbach, the entire Dominions now united in the Palatine House, his Electoral Highness omits nothing that can be done; and the young Heir being under Age, has named for his Administrator (and perhaps for his Successor, in case he dies before his Majesty) Duke Ferdinand of Bavaria, whose House, and that of Neubourg, are already knit together by Ties of Blood: It is not therefore to be doubted, but the Bavarian House will interpose in this Succession.

"The Dutchies of Juliers and Bergue, the Countries in dispute, lying in the Neighbourhood of France, and the united Provinces, those two Powers are nearly interested in the Person who shall succeed to them; so that the Issue of this grand Affair does not concern the germanick Body alone, though we may be sure there is not one Member thereof, that is not uneasy at the Thoughts of an unequal Distribution of Power amongst them. This being the Case, according to the present Situation of Affairs in Europe, notwithstanding the Justice of his Pretensions, his Prussian Majesty must rest contented with what shall be given him. Happy if he shall be able to obtain any thing, in the F. Way
Way of Negotiation; for, unless unforeseen Opportunities should offer, 'tis in vain for him to try to do himself Justice by Arms; not but those Countries are worth fighting for, bringing near 200,000 l. per Annum: but the King of Prussia has neither Ally nor Well-wisher in the present Affair; but, on the contrary, he is surrounded with Neighbours, who are far from being desirous of contributing to the Augmentation of a Power, which already they look upon with a jealous Eye, and think too formidable.

The Author concludes with his private Sentiment, that, in the General, it would greatly contribute to the Advancement of the Protestant Interest, and to the Strengthening the Barrier of the Empire against France, were those Countries to be possessed by the King of Prussia.

By the foregoing Account, we find, that his Prussian Majesty has an indubitable Right to those two Dutchies; not only as he descended from the eldest Sister of the Duke of Cleves, &c. but that since his Ancestors maintain'd their Right by Force of Arms, and at length thought fit to end the Controversy by a Treaty of Peace between the Houses of Brandenbourg and Neubourg, wherein the several Territories belonging to each other were joined, in
in default of Heirs Male in either House; it is his Right, and no doubt but he will maintain that Right.

The Author above quoted, seems to give his Opinion a little too free in this Dispute, wherein he asserts, that the King of Prussia must rest contented with what shall be given him; and that he would be happy if he should be able to obtain any thing by Way of Negotiation.

I would ask that Author, if he has not already shewn, by what Account he has given of this Affair, that his Prussian Majesty's Pretensions are just? And, if so, it would be highly reflecting upon the mediating Powers, even to surmise such a Thought.

On the contrary, we may make no doubt, that if his Britannick Majesty and the States General, should, on Examination, find his Pretensions to those Dutchies justly founded; those two Powers would be ready, for the sake of Equity, Friendship, and the Protestant Religion, not only to declare the Justice of his Prussian Majesty's Claim, but maintain the same by Force of Arms against any Combination of Powers whatsoever.

France hath taken Care to gain over several Princes to the Interest of the House
of Sultzbach; by which we see that the two Dutchies in dispute are of no small Importance; and 'tis great chance if, at the Deceafe of the Elector Palatine, a War will not be inevitable; since the King of Prussia is determ'nd to maintain his Right at all Events; and France, no doubt, will enforce her mediating Troops into those two Territories, to preserve them for the Prince of Sultzbach.

What Step we ought then to take, if the Affair be not decided before that Time, I shall not pretend to dictate: But certain it is, that the Emperor, France, and other Catholic Countries, are nearly interested in behalf of the House of Sultzbach; and the Protestant Powers (for Religion's fake) in the Claim of that of Prussia.

Should it come to a War, and the Arms of France turn out successful, we shall then see in what Manner those Dutchies will be disposed of; whether the Prince of Sultzbach will have the full Possession thereof, or whether it will be another Barr and Lorrain Story.

We come now to true French Mediation in the Affair of Corsica. To trace it from the Beginning would be too prolix; let it then suffice to say, that the Republick of Genoa, laid heavy Taxes, and imposed hard Laws, upon
upon the Corsicans, which became insupportable; that, altho' they often intreated the Republick for a Mitigation, yet could obtain none; which so enraged the common People, that they arose in great Numbers, and were resolved to throw off that Oppression, and never more submit to the Genoese Yoke.

The first Step the Republick took, was to endeavour to subdue those Malecontents with their Forces, but found their Strength insufficient for it.

At length, one Baron Theodore Neuhoff arrived at Corsica with Arms and Ammunition, which the Malecontents joyfully received; and in Gratitude for so friendly an Assistance, immediately chose him for their Chief, supposing him possessed of many Virtues, as he had gloriously ventured his Life and Fortune in their Cause of Liberty. This Theodore, who is certainly a bold, enterprising Man, was crowned King of Corsica; which Title he willingly accepted, as he thought it might be a Means to endear him the more to the Malecontents. From that Time they took Oaths of Fidelity, and voluntarily swore Allegiance to him.

The Republick of Genoa, on the other Hand, published a great Reward to those who
who would take the Baron, and bring him to them, dead or alive.

After which, several Skirmishes ensued, and the Baron, who is an expert Soldier, conducted the Corsican Troops; which fought with great Bravery, being animated with the Presence of their General.

It has since plainly appeared, that Spain sent him thither, and furnished him with warlike Stores, and other Neceffaries, sufficient for so great an Undertaking, in order, thro' him, to get Possession of that Island, which, it seems, is of no small Consequence: And, indeed, so we may judge; for, if otherwise, no Nation would care to concern herself with it.

Soon after the Arrival of Theodore, and the Encouragement he met with, France, understanding from what Quarter those Successes came, and being jealous of her grand Ally, proposed sending some Forces to assist the Republick to subdue the Corsicans, which the Genoese would gladly have accepted, had not Spain remonstrated against such a Proceeding; so finding that Scheme would not take, she had recourse to another, in which she succeeded; and to which Spain (who at that Time did not care openly to acknowledge that Theodore was her Vice-roy) could not well object.
This was, to offer her Mediation, to adjut just the Differences subsisting between the Ge- noese and Corsicans, which was unhappily accepted by both Parties. Unhappily I may well say; for the poor Corsicans, who are now in a worse Condition than they were at first; and it is a Question whether the Republick itself will not, in the End, suffer by it.

The first Step the French Court took, was to send a Body of Troops thither, under the Command of the Count de Boisfeuix. An odd Way of proceeding for a Mediator. Some Time after his Arrival, several Conferences were held by the French General, with the Deputies of the Malecontents; to whom he, in a pathetick Manner, represented the Odiousness of Rebellion, and how impossible it was, that the Projects formed in respect to the Royalty of the Baron de Neuhoff, should succeed: That, as the King his Master was entirely disinterested in the Affair, they might depend upon his Friendship, and assure themselves, he would use his utmost, not only to reconcile them to the Genoese, but to obtain full Redress of their Grievances, and good Security for the same for the future, which should be guarantee’d by his most Christian Majesty. The distress’d Corsican Deputies very kindly accepted these Proposals, and assured him, that they desired nothing more than to live in Peace, since whatever had been under-
undertaken by them, had no other Tendency than to obtain a peaceable Government; and if his most Christian Majesty would engage the Republick of Genoa to act towards them as Humanity should direct; the Corsicans might then, perhaps, overcome their Repugnance, and submit again to the Dominion of the Republick. And that, in giving this Proof of their Consideration for the Crown of France, and its Mediation, they hoped, that his most Christian Majesty would, in order to secure the Condition which should be granted them, consent that a Garrison of his Troops should be left in this City.

Which, by the Way, they need not have solicited.

Pursuant to this Mediation, the Malecontents sent Hostages to the Court of France; on the Arrival of which, it was reported, that some Vessels were ordered to be fitted up to bring home the French Troops from that Island. In the mean Time, Baron Neuhoff landed 200 Men, with divers Warlike Stores. Upon this Advice, the Count de Boisfeux, being greatly exasperated at their Infidelity, reproach'd them therewith, and threatened them with the French King's Indignation, if they persisted in their Attachment to the Baron. Whereupon the Malecontents were divided in their Sentiments; those on this side the Mountains declaring for the French King,
King, and those on the other, for Theodore. About this Time, four of the Baron's Ships, with part of his Stores, were taken by French Frigates. However, it was afterwards judged proper to try if fair Means would bring them to comply with the Measures of the French Court: for which Purpose his most Christian Majesty published a Proclamation to be dispersed among the Malecontents of Corsica. The Substance of which is as follows.

I. An Amnefty and Restitution to all Honours and Estates was promised to all that would accept of it.

II. Every Body should be disarmed under Pain of Death.

III. All Imposts, Subsidies, and Taxes, not paid during the Time of the Revolt, should be forgiven, and not be levied again till after the first of October.

IV. The Commisary-General of the Island shall not, as heretofore, have Power to send People to the Galleys, but Criminals shall be sent to Genoa, to be tried according to the Forms of Justice.

V. The Supreme Tribunal of Corsica shall consist of three Auditors, who shall neither be Genoese nor Corsicans (then, consequently, they
are to be French) but the inferior Judges shall be Corsicans, who shall have Power to determine, without Appeal, all Causes not exceeding 500 Livres in Value, having before no Cognizance of any above 25 Livres.

VI. Colleges shall be erected for the Education of the Youth of Corsica, who shall be raised to the Episcopal Dignity, equally with the other Subjects of the Republick; which Promises, in case of Vacancies, to propose them to the Pope.

VII. The Republick shall nominate, for five Years successively, four Corsican Families every Year to be enobled.

Assassins shall be hereafter punished with Death, without Mercy: And the King, and the Emperor, will be Guarantees for the Execution of these Conditions.

By the above Amnesty it plainly appears, that this unfortunate Island will fall under French Government: But whether the unhappy Corsicans will find less Oppression, than from their former Masters, Time alone must discover.

Soon after the Publication of this Amnesty (which the Corsicans on the other side of the Mountains refused to accept) Baron Theodore was arrested at Naples, and confin'd there some
some Time. The *French* General then took the Opportunity to inform them of it, and persuade them to comply; but it was all to no purpose; the brave *Corsicans* on the other side the Mountains, were resolved to continue steadfast in their Obedience to him.

**Baron Theodore**, in his Confinement, received all the Homage due to a Nobleman of the first Rank; he had the Liberty of walking about the Castle of *Gaeta*, in Company with two Officers, who were ordered, by his *Sicilian* Majesty, constantly to attend him. After about a Fortnight's Stay there, he was discharged, at the Instances (as we suppose) of the Court of *Spain*.

Much about this Time a *French* Detachment was attack'd by a Party of the *Malecontents*; in which, two *French* Officers, and thirty Soldiers, were killed, and several others wounded. Upon Advice of this News at *Paris*, we hear, his Majesty said, *This is no longer the Concern of the Republick of Genoa; I make it my own Business; the Honour of my Troops lies at Stake*. The Letter which contain'd the above Paragraph, mentioned, that four Regiments had been already sent away from *Antibes*; and that the King intended to have-twenty six Battalions in that Country, besides the *Hussars*; adding, that the *Marquis de Mallebois*, who is to succeed the Count de *Boisieux* in the Command of the Troops
Troops there, is charged to use the Malecontents with the utmost Severity, unless they submit very quickly.

Thus their Report, that several Vessels were ordered to be fitted up to bring back the Troops from that Island, should have been understood, to carry more thither; which, undoubtedly, was the Meaning of the French Court at first: The Paragraph wanted only to be inverted.

As all new French Fashions are mightily followed by the polite English, 'tis to be hoped, that this extraordinary Way of mediating, will not be entirely forgot by us. But to be serious.

From the Whole it appears, that Spain has attempted to get Possession of this important Island by the Stratagem of Theodore, and France by that of Mediation; which latter seems to turn out best of the Two. But I fear, in whatsoever Hands they fall, a heavy Yoke they must submit to. By accepting of French Mediation, and being too hasty in sending Hostages, they have plunged themselves into a deal of Trouble, out of which, perhaps, they will find it very difficult to extricate themselves.

We will now leave that Affair to give a brief Journal of the two last Campaigns on the Frontiers of Turkey.
In order to have a proper Idea of the Reasons which induced the Court of Russia to enter into a War against the Turks, it will not be amiss to begin with her Czarian Majesty's Demands: which were, first, That Asoph should be delivered up; and, secondly, That Liberty should be granted her Subjects to traffic in the Black Sea. Both which the Ottoman Porte strongly refused to grant; which occasioned the Emperor, by his Minister at that Court, to solicit the Grand Seignior to comply with the Demands of the Court of Russia, since his Imperial Majesty was strictly obliged, by Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns, to supply the Czarina with Troops in case of Need; concluding, that the Emperor his Master would be sorry to have his Forces employ'd against the Porte.

At that Time the French Court endeavoured to persuade Thomas Kouli Kan to agree to some secret Articles proposed to him by the Grand Seignior, which he refused. The Republick of Venice were, at first, determined to stick by the Emperor to the last Extremity, in his War against the Turks, and to send him Succours by Sea and Land. Upon which, a Scheme was form'd at Petersburg, for Russia, Germany, Poland, and Venice, to attack Turkey in four different Places at once; and it was thought that Sweden would
would have attacked a Country which formerly belonged to them. In this Situation the Ottoman Porte sued for a Peace with the Emperor, Russia, and Venice; which, it has since appeared, was only to gain more Time to strengthen themselves. Several Plenipos were accordingly appointed; and the Czarina's Ambassador produced the following Articles for a Peace with the Porte.

I. That the Turks should for ever renounce Asoph, and build no Forts near it.

II. That the Porte should reimburse all the Expences which Russia had been at in preparing for a War.

III. That if the Tartars continued to make Incursions, the Czarina should have Liberty to chastize them, and the same should not be looked upon as a Breach of the Peace. And concluded, That if the Porte hesitated, the Campaign should be immediately opened.

The Grand Seignor, by the Advice of his Divan, still refused to deliver up Asoph, but offered the Crimea instead thereof; which Russia not accepting of, all Sides again prepared for a vigorous War.

The Czarina issued out an Edict, which commanded, that all young Gentlemen of her Empire, who were intended for the
the Army, between Eight and Twelve Years of Age, be taught for the future to write; that from Twelve to Sixteen, they be instructed in Arithmetick; from Sixteen to Twenty, they learn Geography, Fortification and History; and that then they be admitted into the Service.

Such Regulations are greatly wanted here.

The Republick of Venice also made great Preparations for a War against the Turks; but at the same Time were fully resolved, first to have their Right of Conquest settled by the Emperor and Czarina: and accordingly, by their Ambassadors at the Courts of Vienna and Petersburg, insisted upon the sole Conquest and Possession of Dalmatia, a Part of the Albania, and the Morea, for their Share. The Emperor and Czarina finding that the Disposition of the Republick to enter into a War, was more to serve their own selfish Ends, than in Respect to them, wisely refused their Assistance; which, indeed, would have been of little other Service to them, than to harrass the Ottoman Porte, the sole Benefit of which, the Republick themselves would have reap'd from their Conquests.

The King of Poland was determined not to break with the Turks, since his Affairs, at that Time, were not in so good a Condition, as to maintain a fresh War. His Polish Majesty
Majesty therefore resolved to keep a strict Neutrality. And Thomas Kouli Kan had then Diversion enough at Home, to fix himself upon the Throne of Persia. So that the War was begun, and carried on, by the Emperor and Czarina alone, assisted by the Cossacks and Calmucks, a People tributary to Russia, who were often times an Overmatch for the Tartars.

The Emperor's main Army was commanded by the Duke of Lorrain, and Count Seckendorf: The first Town they took was Nissa, which surrendered at the first Summons; the Garrison had leave to march out, leaving behind them 145 Cannon and Mortars. After which, they invested Widdin: And another Body penetrated into Wallachia and Moldavia; both which Provinces submitted: But the Joy for these Successes were much cooled by a double Defeat on the Side of Croatia and Bosnia; the first of Baron Rau-nach, who, with 6000 Men, was surprized by a great Body of Turks, and killed, with many other Officers, and the best Part of his Troops. Another Body of 14000 Men, under Command of the Prince of Saxe-Hilbourghausen, that had besieged Bagnialuca, was attacked with great Fury by 300,000 Turks, and most of them were cut to pieces, or drowned, with the Loss of all their Cannon and Baggage; but not without a considerable Slaughter of the Turks.
On the other Hand, the Russians were every Way successful. Count Munich took Oczakow, after a continual Storm of four Days, and the hottest Action ever known; the Garrison consisting of 20,000 Janissaries, and chosen Troops, were most part killed, and the rest made Prisoners, with the commanding Bashaw. Count Lassey passed his Army into the Crimea, over a Strait of the Black Sea, and ravaged the Country, driving the Tartars before him. The Turkish Fleet on the Black Sea, made an Attack upon them, but were repulsed by the Cannon from the Russian Camp and Fleet.

This vigorous Opening of the Campaign, disposed the Turks to think of Peace in good Earneft: And, in a Divan held on that Affair, among other Reasons urg'd by some Members, the Mufti gave his Opinion, That since a War against the Emperor and Czarina could not be carried on with any Success, it was lawful to make Peace with them. A Resolution was taken accordingly, and the Turkish Plenipotentiaries arrived at Niemirow, the Place of Congress, into which they made their Entry with the utmost Magnificence; as did also, the Imperial and Russian Plenipo's, with great and splendid Retinues. The first Thing the Turks proposed, was a Cessation of Hostilities. That being agreed to, the respective Ambassadors proceeded to Business.
The Russians demanded a formal Cession of Asoph and Oczakow, with other Territories; and the Germans insisted on the uti possidetis (keeping what they had got) as the Basis of their Negotiation, and to be reimbursed their Expences; which Propositions the Turkish Ambassadors exclaimed very much against. However, they were immediately transmitted to the Grand Seignior at Constantinople, to be laid before an extraordinary Divan. Some of the Members were for continuing the War, rather than submit to such dishonourable Terms; and others were as strenuous for a Peace, rather than hazard the whole Empire. During these Debates, the common People arose in great Numbers, and went to the Grand Seignior's Palace, and threatened utter Destruction, if Asoph was delivered up, to the Turks, by a Treaty of Peace. Another extraordinary Divan was again held, wherein it was determined to reject those Proposals of the Emperor and Czarina. The Grand Seignior immediately caus'd the same to be declared, with which the People seemed to be satisfied, and dispersed. Soon after great Complaints were made at Court, that the Grand Vizir, who had the chief Command of the Ottoman Army, had been remiss in his Duty, and neglected to take proper Advantages, which were once in his Power. The People thereupon exclaimed against him, and were resolved to sacrifice him to their Restament, on
on his Return to Constantinople: But the Grand Seignior prevented them, for his Highness adjudging it proper to depose him, sent his Master of the Horse to the Turkish Camp near Isachia; where he arrived on the 6th of August, 1737. He immediately sent for the Kiahia, and bid him conduct him to the Grand Vizir; who, as soon as he saw him, asked whether he brought him any Orders from his Highness; the Master of the Horse answering him in the Negative, they sat down to Dinner; but, after that was over, the Master of the Horse pulled out of his Boscum an Order from the Grand Seignior, addressed to the Grand Vizir; by which his Highness deposed him. The Grand Vizir having read the Order, kiss'd it according to the Ottoman Custom, and told the Master of the Horse, that he submitted to the Grand Seignior’s Orders; and that his Highness might dispose of his Person as he thought fit. The Master of the Horse answered, that his Commission was only to divest him of his Dignity, and he might retire with his Effects. The Kiahia then asked him, whether he had brought him any Orders how to act, till the Nomination of a new Grand Vizir? To which the Master of the Horse replied, he might continue to discharge the Duties of his Function till he heard from him upon that Subject. Then, leaving him, he went to assemble the Divan, which was composed of the Aga of the Janisjaries and the Bajbaws.
then in the Army; and, towards five in the Evening, the Kiahbia was sent for; who no sooner appeared in the Divan, but the Master of the Horse pulled out of his Bosom an Order from the Grand Seignior, wherein his Highness appointed the Aga of the Janissaries Kaimakan, and committed every thing to his Care till the Arrival of the Grand Vizir. After which, the Master of the Horse addressing himself to the Kiahbia, asked him, whether he had faithfully served his Highness according to the Law and Constitutions of the Empire? The Kiahbia answered, That he neither knew nor believed he ever acted otherwise, having laboured Night and Day for the Good of the Empire. He asked him again, whether he knew that he (the Kiahbia) was the Cause of the War? He answered, that he did not know it; but, on the contrary, he never wish'd for any thing but Peace. In short, the Master of the Horse asked, whether he had always obey'd the Grand Seignior's Orders? And the other answering in the Affirmative; Well then, reply'd he, pulling a Paper out of his Bosom, obey this Order which I bring you: The Kiahbia receiv'd it in a very respectful Manner, kiss'd it, and having read it, found that the Grand Seignior demanded his Head; adding, that it should be cut off without strangling him first, and the Execution performed before the Hangman's Tent, in Sight of the whole Army; upon which he got up, made his
his Prayer, and followed the Executioner, and the others, to the Place of Execution; but, as soon as he arrived there, he said to the Executioner, You shall not dispatch me here; for I declare myself a Janissary, and, according to their Privileges, you cannot execute me in this Manner.

The Aga of the Janissaries being informed of it, ordered, that since he declared himself a Janissary, he should be executed according to their Privileges; upon which, he was led into a Tent, where he kneeled down, took off his Pelisse himself, and put the Rope about his Neck, which two Men pull'd on each Side till he was strangled. After this Scene was over, they shew'd his Head, in order to send the Skin to Constantinople to be presented to the Grand Seignior. It was proposed to expose his Body, in this Condition, to the whole Army; but it being reckon'd too ghastly a Sight, they agreed to cut off the Head first, and expose only the dead Trunk, which was executed accordingly.

All the Servants of the unfortunate Kiahia were put under Arrest, and his Effects and Equipages confiscated. The next Day the Skin of his Head was taken and salted, and then sent to Constantinople, where it was stuff'd with Cotton, and exposed on the Seraglio. The Kiahia was about Fifty-five Years old, and wore his Beard entire. The late
late Grand Vizir set out from the Camp to go to Isachia, about two Hours after he was deposed, and the Cannon fired when he passed over the Bridge which the Turks have over the Danube. The Bashaw of Bender was made Grand Vizir in his stead, and immediately took Possession of that Dignity.

The Season being now far advanced, the Campaign was quite at an End, on the Side of Russia, and the Generals Munich and Laosy marched into their Winter Quarters in the Ukrain. The latter was harassed, in his March back from the Crimea, by the Tartars, but they were always repulsed, and their Sultan was afterwards deposed by the Grand Seignior for his ill Management.

The Imperialists still kept the Field, but soon suffer'd another Disgrace, in being forced to abandon the Blockade of Widdin with considerable Loss; but, in order to make some Amends, they took Usitza, a strong Fortress in Bosnia, after eight Days Siege: after which, they prepared to relieve Nisba, which was in danger of falling again into the Hands of the Infidels. As General Seekendorff, who is a Protestant, was going in Person to the Relief of Nisba, which was block'd up by 17,500 Men, the Count de Czernin delivered him an Order from the Emperor to resign the Command of the Army provisionally to Velt-Marshals Philippi, and to
to repair to Court. About that Time the Emperor received the bad News, that the Turks had taken Passo Augusto near Orsova; and that a Battalion of Wolfenbattle, which was posted therein, having repulsed the Infidels three Times; but not being able to stand the fourth Attack, were every Man put to the Sword, except three Grenadiers and a Captain who found Means to escape.

Extract of the Czarina's Letter to her Ambassador at the Hague, dated December 2, 1737, concerning the Turks retiring from Ocza-kow, which they besieged with 80,000 Men.

"We have already sent you an Account of what passed during the Siege, until the 7th of November; and in what Manner, with the divine Assistance, and Bravery of the Garrison, the Enemy was repulsed with great Loss in their several Attacks and Assaults.

"This Moment we hear by Lieutenant de Stoffeln, Son of the Commandant in Chief, by whom he was sent Express to the Veldt-Marshal Count Munich, who likewise dispatched him hither, the agreeable News, that the 8th of the same Month, the Enemy, after having sprung two Mines, hazarded a general Assault, and pushed on with such Fury, that they pierced
"pierced as far as the Fosse of the Place; but, with the Assistance of God, were
drove back in such a Manner, that the
Night between the 9th and 10th, they
abandoned all their Works, Approaches
and Batteries, set Fire to their Camp, and
retired with the utmost Precipitation and
Confusion, marching the same Night, and
next Day, near forty Wurstes. Other Ac-
counts say, that during Forty-eight Hours
the Turks exerted their utmost Efforts, to
pass the Town Ditch under a terrible Fire
from all their Cannon and Mortars; the
Russians plying a continual Fire of their
Artillery and small Arms, the Muzzles
of their Pieces almost to the Noses of the
Enemy, made such a Slaughter, that the
Seraskier, not willing to hazard the Loss
of the remaining Troops, gave the Signal,
and retreated with great Precipitancy.
Tho' the Turks lost 10,000 Men in this
Siege, they threaten to renew it; on
which Count Munich has ordered seven
Regiments to reinforce the Garrison, be-
leiving, that as his Troops took the
Place in three Days, the Turkish Officers
must retrieve their Disgrace, or dearly
pay for it.

But to return to the Court of Vienna. Count Seckendorf, at his Arrival there, was
put under an Arrest, and charged with di-
ers Male-Practices; such as misapplying
the
the publick Treasure, neglect of Duty, &c. For some Time he was closely confin'd, and a Guard set upon him; during which, his Imperial Majesty appointed Commissaries to examine into his Conduct.

His Adversaries were heard, but their Allegations were so trifling, that the Count answered them all, without much Hesitation. That unfortunate General, complained on his Side, that the Magazines were ill stor'd, and the Military Chest worse provided, which brought great Difficulties upon him, and rendered him almost incapable of undertaking any considerable Event. To these Complaints he added, that several of his Officers had been remiss in their Orders, and neglected the proper Opportunities: and that it was as much impossible for one Man to be accountable for every Transaction throughout the whole Army, as to be everywhere present.

Thus the Count having, in his Answer, fully refuted all the Charges against his Conduct, a Proposal was made to him, to stifle his Prosecution, provided he would sign two Conditions.

1st, NEVER, thro' the Whole of his Life, to serve against, or directly, or indirectly, do any thing contrary to the Interest of his Imperial Majesty.
zally, To suppress his Resentment, and not to take Vengeance of any Person whatsoever on account of his present Prosecution.

The first he willingly accepted; saying, that he was too well acquainted with his Imperial Majesty's Uprightness of Heart, and Greatness of Soul, ever to suffer even the Shadow of Sentiments, contrary to the Interest of his Imperial Majesty, to rise in his Mind; and that he should for ever persevere in the same Way of thinking, and that he would be ready, on all Occasions, to sacrifice whatever was dearest to him, even the last Drop of his Blood, for the Sake, and in the Cause, of the House of Austria: But in regard to the second Article, a mean Compliance with the Conditions thereof, would give a mortal Wound to his Honour, and the World just Cause to look upon him as a contemptible, cowardly Wretch, who well deserved much heavier Punishments than he had undergone; wherefore, he was determined, whatever might be the Consequence, to take a signal and bloody Vengeance on those who had so strenuously laboured to accomplish his Destruction and Disgrace; and who, at the same Time, were conscious of his Innocence.

About five Months after General Secken-dorff had received the above Proposal, the Com-
Commissioners appointed to inspect this Affair, made their Report to the Emperor. Upon which, an Officer was dispatch’d to Petersburg, to acquaint that Court, that upon the strictest Examination into the Conduct of Count Seckendorff, that Lord had not been found guilty of any Crime; and that, therefore, the Imperial Court was indispensably obliged to set him at Liberty.

Some People pretended to say, that the long Confinement of that General was partly the Effect of the Ill-Will which the Court of Russia bore him: but such an Aspersion, I can by no means comply with; being rather of an Opinion, that it was chiefly owing to the Malice, or Revenge, which some of the Emperor’s Generals bore him, because he had been rais’d to so great a Command of the Army above them. To this add also, his being of the Protestant Religion; which alone might procure him many Enemies at that Court, but could not gain him any Friends (except the Ambassadors of the several Protestant Princes, who, indeed, had all Instructions to solicit in his Favour.) We have, therefore, the greatest Reason to believe him innocent, since, had he been in the least Guilty, for the sake of Justice, and on Account of his Religion, he would have been condemned and punished without Mercy.
In two Months after the Commissioners had made their Report to the Emperor, his Imperial Majesty was graciously pleased to pronounce Judgment upon him, or, rather, oblige him to accept of the four following Conditions.

1st, That he be confined, either at Prague or Breslau, which he shall chuse, and to have the whole Town for his Prison.

2dly, That he neither directly nor indirectly revenge himself upon his Enemies.

3dly, That he solemnly engage not to serve against the Emperor or Empire. And,

4thly, That, as it should be expressly forbidden throughout the Empire to talk of his Affair, so he shall be obliged not to mention it himself.

Thus ended the Affair of Count Seckendorff. We have thought proper to leave out the several Indignities and Affronts put upon him by Court Sycophants, during his Disgrace, as they came from none but Men of very abject Minds and slender Principles.

Towards the Close of that Campaign, the Ambassadors of Great Britain, France and Holland, again renewed their Instances at the
the Porte for an Accomodation between the Emperor, Czarina, and the Grand Seignior; in pursuance of which, several Conferences were held, but were far from being crowned with Success. Whereupon his Highness made the Kaimakan Grand Vizir, on account of his mortal Hatred of the Christians, in the Room of the other who had been deposed: which Choice was not greatly applauded, both on account of his little Experience in War, and his cruel, bloody Temper.

The warlike Preparations were then carried on with great Vigour.

The Kan of the Crimea began the last Campaign at the Head of 80,000 Tartars; with which Body he advanced, in order to penetrate into the Ukrajin, and detach'd a great Number of Troops for that Purpose; but they were so vigorously attacked by Lieutenant General Douglas, with one third of the Number of Men, that he entirely routed them, killed a great Number on the Spot, and took many Prisoners. From this early Success, the Russian Court presaged a fortunate Campaign.

About this Time, the Turks laid Siege to Nisla, and the Garrison which was commanded by General Doxat, not being in a Condition to defend themselves any Time, immediately capitulated, without obliging the
the Turks to strike one Blow. The Emperor, upon receiving this Advice, ordered him to be tried for the same by a Court Martial; and, it being proved that he was in a Condition to sustain the Siege till he might have been relieved, was accordingly found guilty, and, by the Emperor's Order, was beheaded. After Sentence was pronounced upon him, he said, This, then, is the Recompence of Thirty-eight Years Services, and of the many Wounds I have received in the Defence of the Empire; and I must die for having saved the Lives of six Battalions.

Several Officers were also tried at the same Time for consenting to the Surrender of that Place, some of whom were cashiered, and others laid in Irons. They were all obliged to attend the Execution. And, a few Days after, the Officers of the Garrison were called together before the Governor, who declared to them, "That the Emperor judged that Example necessary, in order to let the Officers of his Troops know, that when he intrusts them with the Execution of his Orders, it is their Business to follow them punctually, and not interpret them according to their own Notions."

In the mean Time, the Turks were in full March in divers Quarters; one Party whereof took Semendria, and put the Garrison of
50 Men to the Sword; while the rest invested divers other Places, particularly *Ustiza*, and were twice repulsed by the Garrison with considerable Loss; whereupon they raised the Siege: but, after a few Days, the Turks having received a Reinforcement from the Grand Vizir, returned a third Time to the Charge; and the Garrison being greatly weaken'd, after a brave Defence of three Weeks, surrendered upon honourable Terms.

It will be proper to observe, that the Emperor, being greatly incensed at the precipitate Surrender of *Nissa*, published the following Order against Cowardice. "That if any Regiment fail in its Duty in any Action or Siege, all the Soldiers of that Body shall be decimated; the Officers shall be cashiered with Infamy, and ignominiously punished; and that the Shame of such Body may be buried in Oblivion, its Colours or Standards shall be thrown into the Fire."

On the other Hand, the Grand Seignior, in order to force the Turkish Troops to discharge their Duty, imposed a new Oath upon them, which was drawn up by the *Mufiis*, wherein they declared, That if they did not fight to the last Drop of their Blood, for the Maintenance of the Glory of the Ottoman Arms, they would consent not only to be punished upon Earth, but also after Death, and to be forever de-
deprived of the Felicity of the true Believers, and of the Happiness of seeing the great Prophet Mahomet in Heaven.

The next Siege the Turks undertook, was that of Old Orsova, which, after a brave Defence, they made themselves Masters of. The Commander, Major General Count Miferoni, a gallant Officer, was killed, with 400 Men: But the Loses of the Infidels were much greater. The Turks then advanced to attack Meadia, in order to open their Way into the Bannat of Temeswaer; and the Governor of that important Fort courageously repulsed them several Times; but, at length, was obliged to surrender. They then laid Siege to New Orsova, and batter'd that Fortres with great Fury, making Breaches in several Places.

The Baron de Cornberg, who commanded there, did not fire so much as one Cannon for three Days; which made the Turks believe, that his Ammunition began to fail; but they were soon undeceived, with a Vengeance; for the Baron having caused his Artillery to be planted about the Breaches, when the Turks renewed their Charge, his Garrison fir'd so briskly on them, with the Cannon and small Arms, that above 2000 Turks were killed on the Spot.
This occasioned so great a Consternation among them, as such a Defence was so little expected, that the rest immediately retired.

By this Time the Imperial Army had taken the Field, and immediately march'd to retake Meadia; but, on their Way, were attack'd by the Turks, with a great deal of Fury, on the left Wing, and in the Centre: the Action was very hot on both Sides; but, after a Fight of four Hours, the Turks were forced to quit the Field with considerable Loss. The Germans had about 1000 Men killed, and among them, a Colonel and forty inferior Officers. The Consequences of this Advantage, were the Surrender of Meadia at the first Summons, and raising the Siege of New Orsova, which the Turks quitted with great Precipitation, leaving thirty Pieces of Cannon, and great Quantities of warlike Stores and Provisions, which they had poison'd. This Action was on the 23d of June, 1738. During which, the Turks behaved with such Resolution, that they broke the Germans left Wing, also their Centre, and penetrated to the Great Duke of Tuscany's Tent, in order to seize him; but having mist him, cut off his Surgeon's Head.

A Body of 6000 Turks, after that Defeat, came before Rani, a small Post defended by 40 Men under Baron Kotwitz, who being I.
fummoned to surrender, refused, and sustained the Assault so briskly, that he killed 500 of them; which so irritated the Aga, that having possessed himself of the Place, he put the Baron and his Soldiers to the Sword, and then quitted it.

The Imperialists having march'd back to Caransebes, the Turks retook Meadia, and their grand Army renewed the Siege of New Orsova, which, on a fruitless Attack, they afterwards changed into a Blockade; and, notwithstanding the Place had been newly supplied with Men and Provisions of all Sorts, yet the Commandant Baron Cornberg was obliged to surrender with his Garrison: at which the Emperor was so enraged, that he ordered the Governor to be arrested, and tried for surrendering that Fortress too precipitately. In that Place the Turks found a fine Train of Artillery, designed the last Year for the Siege of Widdin. The brave Count de Cornberg died during his Confinement, as it was supposed, with Grief. And the Commissioners, about a Month after his Death, reported to the Emperor, that as his Garrison had been greatly diminish'd with Sickness, he was under an indispensable Necessity of Capitulation. Thus the Usage of this gallant Man was parallel to that of Count Seckendorff, except that, the latter lived to
see himself clear’d, and the former died without any such Satisfaction.

Let us now return to the Russian Army, commanded by General Lascy, who, on the 26th of June, attacked and forced the Lines of Percop, defended by 40,000 Turks and Tartars, under the Command of Sultan Galfa; in two Days after, he made himself Master of that Fortress, and the Garrison of 2000 Men, commanded by a Bashaw of three Tails, surrendered Prisoners of War; in that Place were found above eighty Cannon and Mortars. A few Days after, Count Municnich having passed the River Bog, in his March to Bender, was furiously attack’d, and almost surrounded by a numerous Army of Turks; but by the Bravery of his Troops, and the right Management of his Artillery, which did great Execution, after five Hours Fight, the Infidels were forced to leave the Field. That General afterwards continued his March till the 8th of July, when he was again engaged with the Enemy, on the Banks of the Saurana, near the Frontiers of Poland: The Fight was pretty obstinate, and lasted four Hours; but the Turks were at last put to Flight, leaving, contrary to their Custom, a great Number of their Dead in the Field of Battle, and among them many Persons of Distinction.
The Loss of the Russians in these Actions was very inconsiderable. After these two successful Engagements, Count Munich continued his March for the Niestr; during which, he was perpetually harrass'd by the Tartars, and sustaine'd another vigorous Attack (in this Action the Prince of Wolfenbuttle, and the Earl of Crawford, distinguished themselves by their Bravery) but had still the good Fortune to repulse the Enemy with very little Loss on his Side. Being at length, on the 26th of July, arrived within two Leagues of the Niestr, between the Rivers Molokisch and Bielocz, the Enemy, commanded by the Sultan of Bialogrod, Chief of the Budziac Tartars, being reinforced by some Thousands of Turks, made a fourth Onset, with great Fury, on several Quarters; the Dispute was obstinate, several Times renewed, and lasted six or seven Hours. At last the Turks and Tartars were repulsed on all Sides with great Bravery, and next Day the Russians took Post on the Banks of the Niestr. The two following Days were spent in cannonading the Turkish Army intrenched on the opposite Side; when the Russian General finding the Passage of the River in that Place, thro' the Steepness of its Banks, and the Works thrown up by the Enemy, in a manner impracticable, withdrew on the 29th higher up along Bielocz: the Enemy took this Motion for a Flight, and
and sent over the greatest Part of their Cavalry, with some of their best Infantry, to join the Tartars; whereupon, the Russian General was attack'd in his March by 25,000 Janissaries, many thousand Spahis, Arnouts, and Asiatic Horse, with all the Tartars of Bialogrod and Nogay; but were still defeated by him, after losing several thousand of their best Men. The Russians had not above 600 Men killed and wounded. After this Action, Count Munich march'd along the Banks of the Niesfer, but finding that River an insuperable Barrier to the Turkish Empire on that Side; and not caring afterwards to hazard his Army by the Siege of Choczim, whither he must have march'd thro' a Country infected with the Pestilence, he chose to make his Retreat from the Dofna, by quite another Road from that he came, thro' the Territories of Poland to Kiow, and so continued his March till he arrived at his old Quarters in the Ukraine.

On the other Hand, General Lascey continued to ravage in the Crimea; but his Designs were greatly frustrated by the Defeat of the Russian Flotilla, which was to have supplied him with Provisions: so that, after committing all the Ravages he could, blown up the Fortifications of Or, and demolished the Lines of Perecop, he evacuated that Country.
About this Time Baron Stoffeln demolished the Fortifications of Oczakow and Kimburn, by Reason of the Plague which infested those Places, and arrived with his Garrison in the Ukrain. Thus the Campaign being ended, the Troops, on all Sides, prepared for Winter Quarters.

In the last Campaign we may find, that neither the Emperor nor Czarina have had much Success; since the first suffered greatly by the Ravages which the Turks committed in the Bannat of Temeswar, and the latter, after fruitless Marches along the Niester, was obliged, not only to quit her Designs there, but also to abandon two important Forts, which, if still kept in Possession, might have gone a great Way towards an Accommodation with the Porte.

Having now finished my Journal of the two last Campaigns in Turkey, I shall make a brief Summary of what has been said before, and then conclude with some Observations on the Liberty of the Press.

First then, since His Majesty has been enabled by Parliament, to insist upon full and proper Satisfaction for our injured Merchants, and agreed to a new Treaty for obtaining the same; we need make no doubt, but the King of Spain has promised to repay our Merchants
chants their full Demands without any Deduction whatsoever; nor can we less imagine, that our Rights of Traffick in the American Seas, are not fully acknowledged and confirmed thereby.

Let us not therefore murmur against a Thing we are at present ignorant of; but wait with Patience till the same be laid before the Parliament; and then we may be assured, if, in their superior Judgment, any thing contain'd in this new Convention, is not fully expressed, or satisfactory, if our Rights of Traffick be not therein particularly acknowledged and confirmed, the Parliament, as the true Representatives of the People, will advise his Majesty, either to reject that Treaty, or oblige the Court of Spain to make such Amendments to it, as shall be thought most necessary for preserving the Honour and Dignity of His Crown, and the Rights of His People.

I come now to touch on that invaluable Blessing, the Liberty of the Press.

In a late Pamphlet, intitled, Considerations on the Present State of our Affairs at Home and Abroad, Page 40, the Author lays down very copious Reasons why it is adviseable for the Parliament to take away the Method of filing Informations against the Subject in criminal Causes. "Because, says he, tho' it comes
"comes out to be ever so groundless a Charge, the Crown pays no Costs, and the Defendant may be undone by the Ex-
"pense." To this, let me add, that divers Informations may be filed, as well against the Venders as Printer, which is an infinite Hardship on the former.

For Instance, we will suppose, that a Libel, or perhaps only some little Reflection, is printed in any Daily Paper, such Paper, being published betimes in the Morning, and immediately dispersed about Town, the Vender has not Time to inspect, or perhaps if he does, may overlook the Paragraph which gives Offence.

We will then suppose, a Person is dispatch'd to such a Shop, pointed out to him, and ordered to buy that Paper; the Master, Mistress, or, it may be, a Servant that can hardly read, sells it; for which an Information is laid in the King's-Bench Court against A.B. for vending and exposing to Sale such a Libel, knowing it to be so, &c. 'Tis then in vain to plead Ignorance, the Offender shall be continued on his Recognizance for three or four Terms, before he can be discharged. And as he must pay the full Costs, it generally amounts to Twenty Pounds at least.
When, therefore, any Libel or Reflection is in a News Paper, if Informations must be filed, let them be done against the Printer or Publisher only, because they alone are the Trespassers, and the Profits of their Paper may, in Time, be sufficient to support their Expence: but to file Informations against the Retailers, in such a Manner, is inflicting Punishment without Mercy; because such Punishment is not at all proportionable to the Crime.

The Vender may innocently sell a News Paper for Three Half-pence, his Profit amounts but to one Half-penny, or perhaps one Farthing only, and for such a Deed, shall it cost him fifteen or twenty Pounds?

This, therefore, is one Reason why the present Method of laying Informations should be look'd into, since the Innocent are, in such Cases, as liable to suffer as the Guilty.

Before I conclude, it will not be improper to take Notice of the many Hardships Mr. Haines, the Printer of the Craftsman, labours under.

Mr. Am---st, the reputed Author of that Paper, upon some slight Quarrel, thought fit to leave him, and immediately set up another Craftsman at H. Goreham's, in Fleet-street. As to the Cause of the Quarrel, or
the Reasons which induced the Author to leave Mr. Haines, I shall not enter into, being an entire Stranger to both. But I hope, that those Gentlemen, who are the Readers of the Craftsman, will pardon me if I say, they ought, for the Sake of Justice, as well as their own Honour, to take in Haines's Journal with Goreham's.

Which is the Right, is of little Signification; he has been a Sufferer for your Entertainment, and, altho' the Principal Author has ungenerously forsaken him, it is no Reason you should do so to.

The Expence is but trifling; however, it may content him, and greatly contribute towards making his Life easy, which must now be almost a Burthen to him, thro' his Imprisonment; for what is Life without Liberty?

If, on the contrary, you should refuse him this trifling Assistance, you will not only be deemed ungenerous, but, at the same Time, give the Ministerial Writers a large Field to display their Talents in; and, indeed, not greatly to your Reputation as Patriots and Men of publick Spirits.

Here is a Man, they'll say, who, after he has been a Tool to the Country Party, and by publishing their Invectives, procured himself
Self Confinement for Life, is now quite given up, and totally disregarded by them: this is all the Treatment every one must expect from them, when their own Ends are served, and perhaps it may in Time be Goreham's Lot.

**Excuse me** for giving you this short Hint, as I declare my self quite disinterested in this Affair, and let it suffice for me to say, That as Haines * has sacrificed his Liberty, and with it every Thing dear to him, by endeavouring to contribute towards preserving yours, and, indeed, the Liberties of us all, it is impossible to make him sufficient Amends, since that is the most valuable Blessing which Man can enjoy in this Life.

**Before** I conclude, it will not be improper to take Notice of the Numbers of un-stamp'd Papers, which are daily exhibited within the Bills of Mortality, to the great Detriment of the fair Trader, and Diminution of the publick Revenue.

**ALTHO'** these Papers contain nothing more than the Substance of the preceding Day's Papers, yet a great Part of the Town content themselves with purchasing those only, because the Expence is trifling.

* He was tried for Printing the Craftsman of July 2, 17—, and sentenced to pay a Fine of Two Hundred Pounds, and to suffer Imprisonment for Life, or find Sureties for his good Behaviour for Seven Years.
If so, an Abatement in the Sale of such Papers as pay the Duty, must naturally follow, in Proportion to the Sale of those which pay none. By suffering such illegal Practices to pass unobserved, that Part of His Majesty's Revenue will, in Time, become greatly deficient; which Deficiency, as well as others, must be supplied out of the Sinking Fund, and from whence great Inconveniences may arise.

Now, in order to prevent such Impositions and Abuses for the future, those Persons who are daily found evading the Act in such a Manner, should be prosecuted for the same, and Notice given in the publick Papers, that every Person, who exposes to Sale such News, or Papers of Intelligence, under whatsoever Shape or Denomination, unstamp'd, shall be punished to the utmost Rigour of the Law.

I can't believe that the Legislature (who made the Act for laying a Stamp Duty on all News Papers) intended it only as a Grievance to some particular Persons; that could never be meant: It was certainly made to extend the Duty to all Papers of Intelligence, and, consequently, those who are found offending against this Act, are the proper Persons on whom the Penalty should be inflicted.

That
That the Printers and Vendors of such Papers are generally Persons in low Life, and not worth prosecuting, ought to be no Excuse, since our worthy Middlesex Justices think it no Dishonour to send hundreds of Vagrants to Bridewel for retailing Gin. They may as well, and with as much Justice, exercise their Authority (as Terrors to evil Doers) in this notorious Enormity also.

An Act of the Legislature ought either to be put in Execution or Repealed; but was it to be employed against one Body of Men only, it then would cease to be an Act of publick Justice and to preserve Property, and become an Act of Oppression, and, as such, ought to be Repealed.

The Smuggling Act is everywhere vigorously put in Execution, and, I take it, that hawking News Papers unstamp'd, is a kind of Smuggling, and, as such, ought to be suppressed.

For the above Reasons, it is humbly hoped, that the Parliament will speedily take this Grievance to the fair Trader, under their Consideration, and either Repeal this Act, or Enforce it in such a Manner, that no one shall dare to break it for the future.

FINIS.