

Prussia's Conduct and Designs, that a Peace with that Prince, so long endeavoured to be accomplished, is vanished; and to make the Matter worse, we find ourselves at the Eve of being forced to become Principals in a general War, which we have so long endeavoured to avoid.

Hague, November 9. 'Tis the general Opinion here, that the States will call home the Garrisons of Tournay and Denard from England, and replace them with the same Number of Troops, to prevent a Rupture with France and Spain.

From the Portsmouth and Gosport GAZETTE. Nov. 7.
TO THE AUTHOR, &c.

THE young Pretender is not the less an Invader for his coming accompanied with so few Persons. If all that are now about him had come from abroad with him, he would not have been more an Usurper, or they greater Enemies. The Natives are always the greatest Enemies to their Country, when they are Enemies. The *Turks* are not fiercer Enemies to the Christians, than the popish *Irish* and popish *Highlanders* are to *English* Protestants: If they have, besides, long married as Fugitives, Traitors, and banish'd Outlaws, do they not return with heighten'd Rage, with Vengeance still more direful and bloody? Or, tho' they have never been abroad, nor felt the Punishment and Ignominy of Traitors; yet, if they have nourish'd continual Rancour against the Government, been continually bent upon it's Overtrow, and long sought it's Ruin, are they not habitual and silent Foes to all that love and support it? Can any Crowd of Intruders from abroad be conceived more fierce and implacable? Could a Herd of madding *Partians* have proved more eager Thieves, more merciless Plunderers and Butchers, than the wild Chans following the young Pretender? There is one Good resulting from this shocking Evil, namely, that it is so shocking, and by it gives us a Sample of his Government, and of his Notions of Government. This is so glaring, that they who are not alarmed by it, deserve the sharpest Whips and the heaviest Chains, without Redemption or End.

Does he talk of a free Parliament? Mockery and Insult! Never was a more free Parliament than ours, or so much Property in any Parliament. There are several flagrant Members in either House, able to buy every Follower he has, with all their Chiefs, and all the Lands of their Chiefs, without mortgaging, much less selling, his Estate. I could name to him the Lady of one Member, who has more Wealth upon her Toilet than would cloath his whole Army much better than they now are, after all their boundless Plunder.

WHAT *English* County, or even small Borough, would own him, or his Writ, or chuse a Man fit for his Purpose? He can have no Prospect of any Parliament, but a Parliament of *Highland* Robbers, or *Iry* Rapparees; at best, such as they shall chuse and admit. What Parliament can he possibly have, but a Parliament like his Army, composed of Indigents, Outlaws, and Savages? What other Parliament would serve his Turn? He cannot but see the Dread and Antipathy of the Nation, flaming fiercely from every Corner of it against him; yet he has the Modesty and Consistency to talk of a new Parliament. The whole Nation are his Enemies, except some unnatural Desperadoes, such as the Nation will never chuse. Does he mean to have a free Parliament chosen by Force? This was the Scheme of his pretended Grandfather, who, like a true Tyrant, robbed the Electors of their Charters, and filled them with Creatures of his own: But even his own Creatures abhorring his Religion and his Tyranny, abandoned the Bigot and the Tyrant. Is better to be hoped from this proscribed Invader?

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whilst they have the Thing itself, they will not be mocked with the Grimace and mere Sound.

He comes from Rome to protect the *English* Church, from France to defend *English* Liberty, a Papist to protect Protestants: Can there be greater or more insulting Drillery? We enjoy more Liberty than any, than all the Nations of the Earth enjoyed, now or heretofore. We enjoy Religion in higher Perfection than ever, because every Man enjoys his own Religion; the Church is more secure than ever, because her Sons do not disgrace her by seeking to persecute Dissenters, or endanger her by the false Factionary of her Danger. His Majesty protects Property, and defends the Laws; his Subjects love and admire him: Never were there known such silent, such active proofs of popular Confidence in a Prince.

He is a system of national Policy, a System unparallel'd throughout the World: A Change from this System impossible to find Entry and Destruction. The Burden of a new Parliament is an old snare, the Cant of a Pretender. His Religion and his Principles, popish and arbitrary, are our Dread and Damnation: He is a Stranger in his Person; his Countenance and Exiles are starving and desperate Outlaws; his Measures are barbarous; his Soldiers are savages. If he regarded Parliaments, he would have paid but a Parliament had sent for him. He was intruded against the Voice of Parliament and of the Nation, the loud and repeated Voice of both. He tramples upon Law, he plunders Property, he imprisons and executes Men, he commits universal Spoils, he rakes of Rights: He prophanes the Name Antiquary, and deals with that of Parliament: Did his pretended Grandfather use Parliaments? Would he be availed by Parliaments? Or, did he keep his Oaths to Parliaments?

His very Claim, the Claim of Descent, is a Violence of Parliament and Law, and Oaths: If the Parliament can exclude one King and chuse another, than is his Claim by Blood a Bubble; nay, it is Treason against the Constitution: But if that Claim prevail, then there is an End of Parliaments; and a Man may destroy a Nation, because he is called, or calls himself, King of it; or because his Ancestors, may, because his pretended Ancestors, were Kings of it. If no Disqualification can disable him, then a Person unfit for the lowest Office in Life, is fit for the highest; one that is dumb may utter Laws, a deaf Man may listen to Council and hear Petitions, a frantic Enthusiast may dictate in Religion, and an Idiot, or, which is worse, a wretch and perjured Tyrant may govern the State.

Such is his latent Claim; it must be such; and he dare neither give it up, nor explicitly assert it. The Parliament, many, all Parliaments, have settled the Succession as it is now settled; forced to do so by the Perfidy, the Bigotry, the Frenzy, and Tyranny of his pretended Grandfather. Yet he mocks those that will be mocked, with an Appeal to the Parliament. He does not, he dares not describe what Sort of Parliament he means, how chosen, how principled; neither need he describe it: We can guess his Meaning. He must either have no Parliament, or one worse than none: In the Members, a desperate Fortune, and an implacable Spirit, will be the first Qualification; blind Bigotry the next; and abandoned Submission to his Will, the last and greatest, recommended by the other two.

So that whether he should have such a Parliament, or no Parliament, there will be an End of all genuine Parliaments. And then — what follows? Ask him, and he will not tell you; but I will, and all Men may guess; even whatever he pleases, final Bondage and the Inquisition, Monks and Frauds triumphant, Conscience oppressed, the Bible banished, Popery and Flames in Fashion, and Protestants burned, or their Bodies seized at the Expence of their Faith and their Souls. Here is a Catalogue of Woes, dreadful ones; yet not all. B. hold them,