

old Debts. For if this should ever be the Case, the negotiating a new Loan, tho' the Call for it is ever so urgent, must, We fear, be attended with Difficulties little short of insurmountable. And from the same Motive we wish also, that, if some Difficulties on this Account should arise, a true *British* Spirit and Resolution will interpose, to prevent any unreasonable Compliances to put off the Evil Day, which may double the Mischiefs, when it proves inevitable.

We will dwell no longer upon this disagreeable Prospect. For notwithstanding the Loss of this *Indemnity*, if the Ministry have made sure of the other Point, that is, *Security against the future Attempts of our Enemies*, Your Majesty and Your People may yet be safe, and perhaps *more* happy, tho' *less* rich than they might otherwise have been.

That the *Word of France*, nay her Most Solemn Engagements before G O D and M A N, have lost even the *Shadow of a Security*, is a Truth too well known to every Power in *EUROPE*, to be now disputed.—Nothing could ever yet engage *her* to be honest against the Calls of Ambition and Interest, but its being out of her Power to be otherwise.—If we look back no farther than the *Restoration*, the History of *Europe* from that Time to the present, seems to be a continued Series of undeniable Evidence of her *uniform faithless Conduct*; and that both *England* and *Holland* have frequently been (either from the *Weakness* or *Corruption* of their Great Men) the *silly Dupes of her infamous Policy*. Therefore, We, Your Majesty's Faithful Subjects, would be glad to flatter Ourselves with the Hope, that some *better Security* has been provided for Our future Safety, than the *Honour of France*, by a *Ministry* who could not possibly be ignorant of its *real Value*.

The Power of *France* to hurt Us, must lie in the Largeness of her Revenue, or in the Superiority of her Marine Force.

What Comfort can we administer to Your Majesty, or take to Ourselves, on either of these two Points, from a Review of the *late Treaty of Peace*?—Before the Commencement of it, we saw *France* without Trade, with a Fleet truly inoffensive; and *Spain* with a Lock upon her Treasure, and the Key in Our Pocket; and what is more, all this *our own*, or in *our own Power*, and purchased with the *Blood and Treasure* of Your Majesty's

Faithful People.—But now, we see *France* reinstated in her Trade in *all its Branches*, when she could not have commanded *one* of them, and that with such *additional* and *very material* Advantages as she could never have hoped for, had not her Islands fallen into Our Hands; and when every Article restor'd to them throws *double* the Weight into the Scale against this Kingdom; and all this without *any Equivalent*, or any Stipulation (as far as we can see) for the Payment of the least Part of that heavy, tho' necessary, Debt, which must now lie as a dead Weight upon the public Revenue, without any reasonable Hope of Redemption.

Your Majesty will be at no Loss to know what Your good People think of this *strange* Conduct of the Ministry, when You are informed they are of Opinion, that this Kingdom had *sufficient* in its Hands, to answer *this*, or *any other* reasonable Purpose, till it was *idly* thrown away by Men who *did not*, or *would not* know what was in their Power.—How much all this must encrease the Revenues and Power of *France*, it would be an Insult upon Your Majesty's Judgment for Us to offer to explain.—We hope the Ministry did not mean by this, to convince us, that *our Conquests must prove our Ruin*; an Argument which their Writers seem'd particularly fond of.

Even the bold and confident Writer of the *Brussels Gazette* himself, did not venture to suppose, that, in Case *Martinico* fell into our Hands, *France* could ask more than her Choice of *one* of the two Islands, *Martinico* or *Guadalupe*; and upon that Supposition, determined that her Choice would fall on *Martinico*.—What Opinion of the Ministry who negotiated the Peace, encouraged her afterwards not only to demand *both*, but also, the *best* of the Neutral Islands, which was originally *our own*, along with them, is a Mystery which at present lies hid in the Womb of Time; and what *Motive* induced the Ministry to comply so readily with that Demand, *they themselves best know*. And yet these are but a small Part of that Trade and Power, which they have generously made *France* a Compliment of.

Your Majesty, we doubt not, can well remember, that the *unknown, infinite Resources of France* for carrying on the War, was made Use of by the Ministry as an unanswerable Argument for hastening the Peace. If they were in *earnest*, could it be possible for Men, who had *really* the Interest of their Country at Heart,