

embraced, to keep themselves so united, that the Interest of the one may be the Interest of the other : The said Ambassador and Minister Plenipotentiary, with the profound Respect due to the Monarch of Portugal, desirous to satisfy the Reasons set forth, by his Royal Order, in the said Answer of his Excellency *Monf. da Cunha*, of the 20th of March last, and at the same Time, insisting on those which they produced in their Memorial of the 16th of the said Month, they humbly declare to his most Faithful Majesty ;

That their Catholick and most Christian Majesties are thoroughly persuaded, that the Misfortunes of the War, which they suffer, are not indifferent to his most Faithful Majesty, and that he would have wished to contribute to the Happiness of Peace ; but unfortunately it is not in his Power to do it, except by Force, (and that is what they invite him to) in order to reduce the Enemy not to despise Proposals of Accommodation, as they have hitherto done.

That, if there should be a new Negotiation for Peace, their Catholick and most Christian Majesties would accept the Mediation of his most Faithful Majesty, out of Regard to his sacred Person ; but the Partiality which his Ministry has shewn for the English, desiring to defend their Neutrality in the Course of the present War, would make his most Christian Majesty fear with Reason, that the Mediation of his most Faithful Majesty would not be favourable to him ; and the Catholick King would act contrary to his own Decorum, if he should, on his Side, admit it, when he calls to Mind the Conduct of the Court of Lisbon, on the King's Offers to accommodate the Differences with the Court of Rome, without having been able to obtain from Portugal any Mark of Confidence, or Desire of Reconciliation with the Holy See, (an incredible Thing) except the single Answer, *That hitherto God had not granted the favorable Moment for Reconciliation.*

That their Catholick and most Christian Majesties thoroughly believe his most Faithful Majesty's Aversion to War, and his constant Dispositions for Peace : Their Enemies also know them, so as to make Advantage of them.

That the Defensive Alliances with the Court of London, which his most Faithful Majesty sets forth to shew the Impossibility of his accepting the Offensive and Defensive League proposed to him, cannot be any Obstacle to him ; that the Reasons, given on this Subject, are not founded ; and that those same Alliances are not so innocent, as they would have them thought.

They are not an Obstacle ; because there is no Alliance which is obligatory, when the Question is to shake off a Yoke, which one Nation would lay on Another ; and this is the Project, already far advanced, of England on Portugal.

They are not founded ; because, notwithstanding it is assured, that the Crown of Portugal has not received any Offence from England, to induce her to a Breach of Treaties, the contrary is clearly manifested ; for what stronger Offence than That of attacking a French Squadron in one of the Ports of Portugal ? This single Insult is sufficient to give his most Faithful Majesty a Right to declare War against his Britannick Majesty, if he has not given a suitable Satisfaction for it ; and if he has done it, without, at the same Time, obtaining Restitution of his most Christian Majesty's Ships, the most Christian King has a Right to declare War against his most Faithful Majesty.

These Alliances are not so innocent, though they are called purely Defensive ; because they become in Reality Offensive, from the Situation of the Portuguese Dominions, and from the Nature of the English Power : The English Squadrons cannot keep

the Sea in all Seasons, or cruize on the principal Coasts for cutting off the French and Spanish Navigation, without the Ports, and the Assistance of Portugal : These Islanders would not insult all Maritime Europe ; they would let others enjoy their Possessions, and their Commerce, if all the Riches of Portugal did not pass into their Hands ; consequently Portugal furnishes them with the Means to make War ; and their Alliance with the said Court is Offensive ; and if not, It is asked, by what Reason England should be obliged to send Troops to the Assistance of Portugal, and not Portugal to the Assistance of England ? If it is not, because England finds a Compensation in the indirect Assistance of Portugal, by Means whereof she makes War against Spain and France.

The said Alliances were made in the Beginning of this Century, when there were Animosities and Oppositions, occasioned by the preceding Possession of Spain, and for as long as they might last : Those Animosities, however, are now ended, and two Brothers are Possessors of Spain and Portugal ; shall it then be allowed between two Brothers, for the one to furnish Arms to the Enemy of the other ? Necessity might, then, have authorised the King of Portugal to adopt an Alliance contrary to his true System, and to his Decorum : Now he ought to be glad of the Necessity, which others lay upon him to make use of his Reason, in order to take the Road of his Glory and Common Interest.

That if the most Faithful King loves his Subjects, as a Father, and if he ought to preserve them, as King, their Catholick and most Christian Majesties not only approve it, but they imitate it, by pitying their Subjects for so many Calamities : However, their Majesties are not blameable for those they suffer by War, no more than his most Faithful Majesty will be, when he enters into it, with so much Justice as the present : He ought, on the contrary, to hope, by the Assistance of God, and of his good Allies, for new Splendour to his Crown, and the greatest Advantages to his Subjects : They will then enjoy a strong and solid System, as well in Peace, as War ; whereas by that of an Union with the English, the Risk and Uncertainty of the Assistance of Great Britain to defend them against Spain, may be now seen by the very Precautions taken by Portugal ; even supposing, with Reason, that the Kingdom of Portugal ought not to be indifferent to the English ; and that they ought to be offended with the Proceedings of Spain.

That their most Christian and Catholick Majesties do not complain of his most Faithful Majesty's causing his Places to be repaired and garrisoned, his Ports to be guarded by Ships of War, and his Troops to approach the Places where they might be necessary : These are Precautions of a wise and prudent Prince : Their Majesties might, however, complain of the Preference given to England, to send Succours to Portugal, for the Object of those same Precautions ; to keep at Lisbon an English General, several Aids de Camp, and other Officers ; since it is not possible but that they will concert Military Projects, according to the Solicitations of the Portuguese Minister at London, which are publick ; and which the English themselves do not conceal. But as his most Faithful Majesty is still in Time to embrace the most just Party, the Two Monarchs of France and Spain flatter themselves, that the Preparations of the King of Portugal may acquire an Ally ; being well assured, that they will give him but little Umbrage, and, on the contrary, that they will produce much Advantage to him. If the English had been convinced, that the Preparations were only against the Offenders of the Neutrality, they would not have contributed thereto with such Good-will,

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