

Who would have expected, after such undeniable Facts, and after every thing had fallen out exactly as we had foretold it, when we advised against the admitting of those Auxiliaries, that we should be loaded with the Hatred of the Empire, and that these very Foreign Auxiliaries should be employed to exercise unheard of Hostilities against our Kingdoms and Hereditary Dominions, guarantied in the most solemn Manner by the whole Empire? They might as well lay to our Charge, certain Instigations, little becoming Christians, which we are able to prove; the sharing of our own Dominions, minuted by the Court of France, in open Violation of Treaties; the Threatnings of forcing us to submit to that Partition upon the Ramparts of Vienna; the pretended excluding us from our Royal and Electoral Vote of Bohemia; that Transaction, by which the Law of Nations was violated in the Person of our third Minister of the Embassy; the violent Method by which he was excluded from the Deliberations relating to the Empire, and others besides. There is no doubt but Divine Justice would not permit, that so unjust Designs should succeed. Now that on the other Side they have not obtained those Advantages they had promised themselves from those Auxiliaries which they own they have called in; they on a sudden talk of a Disposition for Peace, of a true Desire of speedily restoring that Tranquility they themselves have interrupted, though they would not give ear to it before for near two Years past. So difficult is it not to contradict one's self, as soon as one goes about colouring an unjust Thing.

Great Strefs is laid on their paternal Cares for the Empire, at the Time when without the previous Consent of the Empire, without the Approbation of the Electoral College, contrary to the fundamental Laws, and especially to the Capitulation acknowledged on the other Side for valid, and confirmed by Oath, they kindle afresh the Flame of a War almost extinct, and which they might have quenched in another Manner, and more to their own Advantage; and when out of Friendship for a foreign Crown that violates the Peace, far from delivering the Empire from her Troops, they introduce into it anew a greater Number of them, and think they have done sufficiently, when, after those Troops are actually on their March, they give Notice of it to the Empire, having first taken that idle Precaution of naming a Commissary to prevent all the Vexations that are to be apprehended.

Our Conduct has been quite otherwise from the Beginning, and shall be so always, that is to say, upright, unalterable, and ready to contribute to the publick Welfare. As we have not been frightened at the Number and Superiority of our Enemies, but relying on the Almighty and the Justice of our Cause, have all along conducted ourselves with Firmness in Dangers; so our perfect Inclination for Peace is always the

same as it has been in the Times of greatest Distress. Nothing shall be wanting on our Side, that for this once (to which Term all the Professions of a peaceable Disposition in the foresaid Commissorial Decree are very deliberately confined) the Empire be speedily delivered of those foreign Guests, nay, that it be free from them for the future also.

It is in vain to alledge the Answer we have prescribed to Count Steinville, though we have communicated it, as in Justice we ought to do, to our Allies. However it was not our Design to lay a Strefs upon it with others: But since the Court of Bavaria pretends to wrest the true Sense of it, we cannot dispense with inserting it here at length.

*THE Queen has been as attentive as it was humanly possible, not to give any Shadow of a Pretence to her unjust Enemies for attacking her. And the Cardinal Fleury must know better than any Body her pacifick Sentiments. No Sort of Regard was had to them, at the Time when it was thought they might be able to oppress her. The Queen has in her Hands authentick Proofs of all the Ill that was designed her, to a Degree even to lose Sight of Christianity. The Hopes of succeeding therein are now vanished, and a great Change has happened in Affairs. However they have beforehand ruined and ravaged her Dominions, overturned the fundamental Constitutions of the Empire, oppressed the Liberty of Germany; and it was not the Fault of France, that the House of Austria was not entirely annihilated, which it was pretended indeed did no longer exist; and all this has been done without the least Regard to the Treaties, and to the most solemn Guaranties. It was even boasted, that they would give Laws to the Queen upon the Bastions of Vienna. And what was aimed at was nothing less than to impose the Yoke upon Germany, and upon all Europe. The Cause of the Queen is therefore become the Cause of all the Princes of the Empire, who are true Patriots, and of all those Powers who have at Heart Tranquility, and Independance. The Point is, to secure both the one and the other, with their Concurrence, without which we should work but at a patched Peace. And although the Queen persists in her Moderation and pacifick Sentiments, it is still equally just and indispensible, as well to redress the extreme Injuries that have been already done her, as to secure her against the like Enterprizes for the future.*

There is Nothing in this Answer that shews the least Averseness to a sincere and reciprocally advantageous Reconciliation with the said Electoral House. Can it be disapproved, that conformably to good Faith we were unwilling to separate ourselves from our Allies? Or is this for the Welfare of the Empire, that before its publick Tranquility be secured, the French Troops

who