

Though, as every Thing has its Scope and Bounds, and when these are exceeded, the best Intentions must turn out to the common Detriment of Germany; therefore it has been already declared without Equivocation, partly in the Answer of this Side to the Memorial delivered at Francfort by the Bavarian Envoy, and partly in the Circular Rescript which relates to the Garrifoning of Donawerth, in what Manner we must look upon the Bavarian Troops for the Future.

But the Answer to the French Declaration of War, and to that made by Malbran de la Noue at Francfort, is still more ample.

From this last Declaration it appears as clearly as is humanly possible, that the Declaration of War against us, on the Part of the Crown of France, was concerted with our high Adversary, in the most perfect Concert with the Emperor, and that even in this very perfect Concert every Thing would be undertaken against our Countries belonging to and guaranteed by the Empire, as also against a principal Elector of the Empire, the King of Great Britain as Elector of Hanover. After so solemn a Declaration, which is not liable to the least Doubt or Ambiguity, Count Seckendorf is not however ashamed to give the Bavarian Troops the Title of Friends, who are forbid committing any Hostility under Pain of Death: Which is, no doubt, to be understood only for the Time that they shall find themselves too weak to hope for any Success in such Undertakings. What is still more, that so bold an Assertion should be made after such Circumstances as those which are known to the Empire, and which are so fully exposed in the Answer, N^o 2. viz. after the Bavarian Troops had been mustered, and provided for by France, and reinforced by French Troops, who daily brought them Workmen to intrench them under the Cover of the Imperial Fortrefs of Philipsburg, and, in a Word, as the said Troops depend wholly upon the said Crown, and have served to promote their common destructive Views.

The Imperial Fortrefs of Philipsburg has not, or at least ought not to have the least Connection or Community with such Troops. What relates to this Fortrefs, and other neutral Countries of the Empire, is to be found in the Answer, N^o 2. especially in the Declaration at the End, where every Thing is so entirely exhausted, that it would be superfluous to add even a single Word here.

On the contrary, it must not be neglected to remark, amongst other Things, that in the Year 1728, when this Imperial Fortrefs was intrusted to Count Seckendorf, it was neither the Intention of his Imperial Majesty our late Father of glorious Memory, or of the Empire, that the said Fortrefs should be so audaciously and unthankfully misused for the Service of the Crown of France, and to promote and facilitate the hostile Designs of that Crown, and to cover the Troops destined for the Execution of those

Designs against such considerable Countries belonging to, and guaranteed by the Empire.

The abovementioned Fortrefs is intended for a Check to France, and thereby to procure the more Security to those Countries of the Empire, which it covers, and not to disquiet them; and after the Declaration of War on the Part of France against two of the principal Electors of the Empire, to secure the Passage of the Rhine to the Armies of that Crown, by the Means of a Bridge brought thither from Strasburg, and built, and destined for that Purpose. But at present it is come to such a Pitch, that the French are actually Masters in the said Imperial Fortrefs, are there received and entertained, and the Civil Officers of the Queen oppressed.

And nevertheless they are not ashamed, out of a pretended fatherly Care, to demand still Money of the Empire, thereby to execute with Efficacy their intended Designs. A Proceeding of such a Nature as the abovementioned is to be regarded not only as an entirely unexpected and unheard of, but also as an actual Proceeding to Hostility, attended with many grievous Circumstances, which regard the whole Empire; but what happened at Neudorf, an Hour from Philipsburg, against the Enemy's Troops, cannot be looked upon in the same Manner. Such a Proceeding can never be compatible with Count Seckendorf's solemn Oath of Fidelity and Duty to the Empire, nor will he ever be able to justify his having received into Philipsburg, without the Consent and previous Knowledge of the Empire, the Troops of a foreign Power, against whom the imperial Fortrefs Philipsburg, is solely erected, after the Declaration of War on the Part of that Court against two of the principal Electors of the Empire, and to shelter and protect such Troops under the said Imperial Fortrefs; and moreover to secure to them there the free Passage of the Rhine, to molest and overrun, in a hostile Manner, such considerable Countries belonging to, and guaranteed by the Empire. Therefore, the common Welfare and especially the Security of the outward Circles, indispensably requires that the Empire should call Count Seckendorf to a severe Account for so grievous a Proceeding. You are to communicate this in all proper Places; and we remain, &c.

Given in our City of Vienna, the 13th of June, 1744, in the 4th Year of our Reign.

N^o I.

Copy of a Letter from the Bavarian Field Marshal Count Seckendorf, to me Charles Duke of Lorraine. Dated Philipsbourg, June 4, 1744.

I Did not intend to importune your Highness with my Letter, if I had received the Explanation as promised by Count Kalnocki, upon what I caused to be represented by Major General St. Germain, to the commanding General, or Officers of the Commands, which two or
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