

his Consideration and Influence amongst the Princes of the Empire.

*Voltaire* has stated the Nature of those Claims, which the King of *Prussia* first made upon *Silesia*, with an elegant Brevity. " Il y prétend " doit quatre Duchés, dont sa Maison avoit " été, autrefois en Possession, par des Achats " & par des Actes de Confraternité. Ses Ayeux " avoient renoncé a toutes leurs Pretensions " par des Transactions réitérées parce qu' ils " étoient foibles; Il se trouva puissant, & il les " reclama." *Silesia* is, at present, in no Danger of changing its Master: *Austria* left to herself alone will manage with Difficulty an unequal War. It is to be wished, rather than expected, that the Empress Queen of *Hungary*, and the King of *Prussia*, would at last drop the Memory of their old Provocations, and permit the true Interest of their respective Countries to prevail over the mutual Injuries which they have done and suffered. A firm and cordial Friendship between two such powerful Sovereigns would soon heal the Wounds of *Germany*: Political Distractions, intermixed with religious Differences, have long weakened the Empire; and the Weakness of the Empire has been the Strength of *France*. — The following extraordinary Anecdote is too remarkable to be omitted in this Place, especially as it rests upon sufficient Authority; but whether it most distinguishes the *Spirit* or the *Art* of the Empress Queen, I will not take upon me to determine.