

I know what you are ready to answer me, the Letters which you honour'd me with, after the Death of the Duke of *Burgundy*, have prepossess'd me sufficiently ; I know you'll say, that the Death of the Emperor *Joseph*, has very much chang'd the Face of Affairs in *Europe*, and principally in Relation to the Point of Balance. That all those vast Dominions of the House of *Austria*, finding themselves re-united with the Imperial Crown, in the Person of one Prince, will form in him a much greater Power than when they were divided into two Monarchies. And that this Change happening in the Things themselves, the same ought necessarily to follow in the Measures. You'll add, that there's no Fear, that the Interest of *France* and *Spain* will be united ; that the most Christian King is now in the 74th Year of his Age, and probably can't live long. That in all Appearance the Crown will descend to a Minor ; and the then governing Regents (not having the same Authority, nor Forces, nor the same Revenues which the present King has) will have no further Views than to preserve the Kingdom entire, and won't think it adviseable to trouble the Repose of *Europe*. That the Duke of *Anjou*, on his Side, will pursue a Plan of Politicks different from what has been already follow'd ; and will find himself necessitated to keep in with the Maritime Powers. That he'll court their Friendship ; and to obtain it,

will