

embrace the same Party, and pursue the same Purposes for an Age or Two to come: For these Considerations, therefore, and for Others yet more cogent, such as the ruin'd State of her Commerce, Navigation and Naval Strength, the Distress and Danger of her Colonies, the Wants and Miseries which began to rage in her own Bowels, &c. she consented to open Conferences at *Breda*; and at any one Period in that Time, would have sheath'd the Sword, on these short Principles; Nothing for herself; and very little for her Allies.

That in the very Hour of Victory, his Most *Christian Majesty* himself, had discover'd a passionate Inclination for Peace to G——l L——r, when brought before him as a Prisoner, after the Battle of *Laffeldt*; that the said G——l was very soon after dismiss'd on his Parole, to communicate certain formal Propositions on that Head; that those Propositions were rejected; that *Spain* was at the same Time so impoverish'd by the Captures we had made, the Expences of the War, and the detaining her Treasures in the *Indies*, that she also discover'd the same Inclination; and that on the Death of the late King, which was followed by some Alterations in her Councils, she actually did make Offers of the like Tendency, (in the Month of *September* 1746, to the Marquis de *Taberna*, then in *Portugal*, that is to say) has been already acknowledged in *Print*.

If, therefore, the B——rs had been really of that Opinion, which, for the Sake of their own pernicious Purposes, they had perpetually inculcated, namely, That it was utterly impracticable to carry on the War with any Prospect of Success; or if, according to the scandalous Declaration they afterwards made, their only Aim had been to procure a Peace at *any Rate*, how is it possible to excuse or palliate the Rejection of these Offers?

Or