

The important conquests of Guadaloupe, Martinico and the Havanna, have indeed been returned by the Definitive treaty; but the loss of them were of infinitely more prejudice to the enemy, than their possession could have been of service to us.

We have also agreed to permit the French to fish on the banks of Newfoundland, in the gulph St. Lawrence, and on the coasts of the island of Cape Breton, and given them the island of St. Pierre and Miquelon, for that purpose, with leave to keep stores, and to cure and dry their fish in Newfoundland. This is by far the worst part of the treaty; for besides that Great Britain, by engrossing the whole of the fishery, might have employed all her poor sailors who are now in distress, it would have brought large sums into the nation, and, what is of still greater consequence, her navy would have been so strengthened, and that of France so impaired, by this means, that in all probability, no war would have ensued for a century, and our ministry and people, with common prudence, might have discharged the whole of the national debt, enormous as it is.—Besides the conquests made by Great Britain, during the course of the war, the French marine was almost annihilated, and that of Spain so damaged, as not to be repaired for some years; so that this seemed to be the time for Great Britain to settle a peace to her own satisfaction.

The war in Germany, in its own nature was but a secondary consideration to Great Britain; but the engagements we had entered into there, rendered it in fact a primary one. To dissolve those engagements, without hurting the honour of the nation, or endangering the balance of power on the continent of Europe, was the great object that, soon after the accession of his present majesty, employed the attention of his ministers. They succeeded in their intention beyond the expectation of the public. They more than fulfilled their actual engagements with his Prussian majesty; and, after the defection of the Russians from the cause of Austria, they took off the French from being his enemies. The sensible and immediate effect of this was, that the princes of the empire, who think they have no security against the power of Austria, but the treaty of Westphalia

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