

P R E F A C E.

Evil, than by vain Attempts to hasten or exasperate the Misery; *Let the Lyon sleep, say they, and let us by our Gentleness and Flatteries engage him so to do; Time may lessen or wear out that Rage, which, should we provoke, we are not able to resist.* Thus while evil Men cherish'd, and unthinking and mistaken Men submitted, the mighty Mischief grew and prosper'd: Like some irresistible Fleet it commanded and aw'd even those distant Countries, that had not yet seen or felt its Power. *Roman* it was in the Wisdom and Conduct of its Arms, but of how far different a Spirit from that Heroick Common-wealth? who with Hardships to themselves conquer'd and subdu'd Nations, with the same tender Designs we chastise our Children, only to make 'em better and more happy than they were before.

In this disconsolate Posture was *Europe*, not expecting Safety, the Delay of its Ruin seem'd to proceed but from the Pleasure or Frolick of the Conqueror; when Crown'd Heads and States were *bid* to hope for that *Liberty*, which they before only durst secretly desire. This great Design is laid by a Prince, whose Descent seem'd to entitle him to become a Deliverer: His Ancestors, of the same Name, rescu'd his Country from Powers not indeed so well founded and numerous, but still as destructive, as these the distant Nephew was to engage with; Providence
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