

the Summer had not answered our warmest Expectations from it. As it is, we are in a Situation to be pitied, and if the general received Notion be true, that *Gibraltar*, in some Shape or other, is to follow, it will be very difficult to describe our State. The Reason pretended for giving up *Gibraltar* is founded on a notorious Mistake; it is, that all our Quarrels with *Spain* are upon that Score, which I assert to be a false Fact on the Face of it. The first Quarrel we had with *Spain*, since the Peace of *Utrecht*, was, because we destroyed their Navy without declaring War, and helped the *Emperor* to drive the *Spanish* Army out of *Sicily*. To salve which Sore, and to be good Friends with *Spain* again, our then Ministry committed a very vain and empty Act in Politicks; which was, the making a Feint, and, in some Measure, engaging his late Majesty's Honour, that it should be given up; which, I apprehend, was the first Time the *Spaniards* ever thought about it. When that could not be done, we made them Reparation, by escorting *Don Carlos* into *Italy*; since which Time, until the Approach of the present Peace, *Gibraltar* has not been talked of. The War in 1740. is well known to have been commenced on a very different Account, and, in Truth, had no Relation to it: What Whim brought it upon the Carpet now, I know not; but I find another Pretence, equally wise as the former, and indeed Part of the same, though it furnishes another Kind of Reasoning; it is, they say, to re-establish our ancient Amity with the Crown of *Spain*. But how is this to be made out?