

Parties promise to keep it absolutely secret. The Emperor flattered himself, by Means of this Treaty, he had it entirely in his Power to act as he thought fit towards his discontented Subjects; and his most Christian Majesty, on the other Hand, saw himself perfectly covered from any Apprehensions on this side, and of Consequence had all the Leisure he could desire for perfecting the Project he had formed, of humbling, or rather destroying the *Dutch*.

As for the Princes of the Empire, he had found means to secure many of them in his Interest: He flattered the Elector of *Bavaria* with the Hopes of a Marriage; the Elector *Palatine* stood indebted for his Dominions, and for his Dignity, to the Interposition of *France* in the Treaty of *Munster*; the Ecclesiastical Electors, together with the Bishop of *Munster*, and some other Princes, were his by Inclination, and promised, that in Case of a Rupture, they would preserve a strict Neutrality, at least, which was all he could desire. The Elector of *Brandenburgh* alone penetrated the Views of *France*, and could not be drawn into any Engagements, and therefore when the *French* Scheme came to be executed he boldly and honestly ventured to assist the *Dutch*. Yet after all, when the Eyes of the whole World were open, when the Emperor, the King of *Spain*, and many of the *German* Princes saw the Necessity of entering at all Events into a War, which in its Consequences must be fatal to themselves, the Duke of *Hanover* thought to prefer his private Views to the publick Safety, and actually entered into a Treaty with *France*, dated the 10th of *December* 1672, by which he undertook to assist the *French* King against the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, in Case that Prince continued to succour the *Dutch*. This plainly