

her Difficulties, they assisted the *Spaniards* against her, by every Method they could devise, by furnishing them with Provisions, Artillery, Ammunition, Transports, and even Ships of War, at the same Time, that under Pretence of there being no War between *England* and the *Empire*, they would have protected their Subjects and Vessels, as if they had belonged to a Neutral State. But that wise Princess was not to be terrified or cheated, she bore with these Grievances at first, 'till by the Exercise of a Naval War, she had raised a considerable Maritime Power, and then she treated these People as they deserved, ordering her Admirals to sink, burn, and take all such Vessels belonging to the *Hanse Towns*, as they should find in the Service of the King of *Spain*, or his Subjects; and they executed this with such Vigour and Activity, as soon put it out of the power of the *Hanse Towns* to shew their Malice towards her Government, by any other Methods than grumbling, complaining, and exciting the States of the *Empire* against her, which gave that Queen an Opportunity of extinguishing all their Privileges here, and of engaging most of the *German* Merchants settled in her Dominions, to enter into the *English* Companies of Commerce, which she erected, and which gave the last Blow to *German* Tyranny, and effectually established our own Navigation.

The Power of the House of *Austria* came to its Height under *Charles V.* who was at the same Time King of *Spain*, Sovereign of great Part of *Italy*, and all the Low Countries. The Conduct of this Prince, changed the whole System of *Germany*, for as he had nothing at Heart but the Grandeur of his Family, which led him to Measures directly repugnant to the Interest of the
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