

struction of the individuals ; till at length perhaps the war terminates in an issue, very different from what either of the parties had originally intended. Every one knows, that this is the general history of civil wars. Place the scene where you will, or in what age of the world you think fit, this has been the common course of them. Our own country indeed was fortunate enough, to have all the powers of Europe so much employ'd against each other, during the period of our civil war, that they had no leisure to attend to the English concerns. Though France did us the kind office of sending a minister, under the pretence of a mediator, to inflame our differences, and blow them up into a civil war as soon as it could ; but its troops were otherwise employ'd.

Germany has been so unhappy, as to have a dispute arise between two of its leading Princes about the right to four great duchies in one of its remotest provinces. What the names of these are, I confess I do not know ; nor I suppose does one man in ten thousand of my fellow subjects ; though we have spent so many millions about them : but they lie somewhere in Silesia, one of the most eastern inland provinces of Germany, with twenty intermediate States between us and them. Such a dispute arising in Germany was doubtless a misfortune to it. However, as the revenues of neither of the parties are inexhaustible ; the probable issue of such a war, if they were left to themselves, would be,

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