

receiver gratefully accepts, the prince condescends to acknowledge his merit, it being equally to his honour to give where it is proper, as it is for the receiver to understand the propriety and value of the gift. But as to perquisites out of the public appropriations, and thereby instead of a real, a nominal army appears in the field, the shadow or ghost of an army, in no sense suits the maxims which direct this prince's conduct: therefore, I repeat again, it may be a reason why the Russians are to be prefer'd, as the court of Petersburg is not yet absorbed in the corruption and venality common to many other European states. Thus the Russians by a similarity of conduct, by their order, discipline, cloathing, exact observance of their engagements, punctuality of numbers, &c. effectually suit this prince's purpose, in preference to any other, and likewise the purpose of all who are mutually engaged.

There is another reason that may seem a little ludicrous, but has at the bottom something really substantial in it; it is, that a peace as naturally follows a treaty with the Russians, as an increase of pensions,