

No. XXXI.

The Duke de Choiseul's Answer to Mr. Stanley, the 20th September, 1761.

S I R,

THE King has ordered me, Sir, to expedite the passports which are necessary for your return to England: you will find them annexed. M. Buffly had orders to demand an Eclaircissement with respect to the last Answer from England, and to return to France if those Eclaircissements were not favourable. They have certainly been otherwise, since your Court has anticipated his return by your recall. However it be, Sir, his Majesty hopes that some more happy opportunity will produce more effectual inclinations to peace, and he has charged me to observe to you, that you may assure the King of England, that he will always find him disposed to renew the Negotiation, and to consent to equitable conditions, which may establish a firm union between the two Crowns.

The King most sincerely takes part in the marriage of the King of England; if you will send me the Letters from his British Majesty, I will remit them to their Majesties.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Signed Le Duc de Choiseul.

At the same time M. de Buffly understood at London, that a Courier had been dispatched to recal Mr. Stanley, he explained himself on that occasion; and after the British Ministry had confirmed the fact, he desired, agreeable to the orders he had received, the necessary Passports to return to France.

Thus the Negotiation between the two Crowns has been broken off. They who talk so readily, and upon all occasions, that *We must make Peace*, do not consider, that however well disposed a Sovereign may be for the re-establishment of tranquillity, his desire cannot be effectual, but when it is equally sincere on the part of the other Belligerent Powers; and it will be admitted, on reading this Memorial, that the King has omitted nothing to come to an Accommodation; no one can say, that his Majesty's Allies have occasioned the rupture of the Negotiation. It has been proved, that the war which the King maintains in Westphalia, is a war purely English, that it brings no advantage either to the Empresses, or to Sweden, or to Saxony; besides, the Proposition made by France, not to afford any succours, either direct or indirect, to her Allies in Germany, evidently demonstrates that the war in Westphalia neither has been, or could be, an impediment to the Peace.

England and some other courts would pretend that the engagements of the King with his Catholic Majesty, and the proposition made by France to conciliate the differences of Spain with England at the same time with those which were the principal object of the Negotiation, had so disgusted the court of London, that for that reason only she refused the terms for the conclusion of peace. It is true, as has been shewn already, that the British Minister haughtily rejected