

*Lewis XIV.* the most ambitious and withal the most able Monarch of his Time, to take such Advantages of the Distractions of the Empire, as have given rise to all the Doubts and Fears, that have terrified the Friends to the Ballance of Power in *Europe* ever since. *Lewis* knew how sometimes to deceive the Emperor, and at others to cheat the several Princes of the Empire, into Treaties, visibly injurious to the common Interests of *Germany*, by pretending to support them from Time to Time, in their private Views, either by Money or Troops. Thus when he had formed his Scheme of overrunning the *Dutch*, he thought fit first to tye up the Hands of the Emperor, and therefore having Intelligence of certain Troubles that had arisen in *Hungary*, and of which being at such a Distance, it would have been a Thing extremely difficult for him to have turned to any Account; he caused it to be insinuated to the Emperor *Leopold*, that having nothing more in view than enjoying peaceably the Dominions yielded to him, by several Treaties, particularly that of *Aix la Chapelle*, by which he acquired *Burgundy*; and pretending to stand in fear that *Spain* and the States-General would endeavour to ravish them from him, by a new War, into which they might have Hopes of drawing the Emperor, on Account of his near Relation in Blood to his Catholic Majesty, and of his close Connection with the States; he therefore testified an Inclination to conclude, purely for the Sake of preserving Peace, a defensive Alliance with his Imperial Majesty, by which they might reciprocally engage not to assist each others Enemies. Into this Snare the Emperor fell, and such an Alliance was actually concluded on the 1st of *November* 1671 at *Vien-na*; by the last Article of which, the contracting