

ship, the British Minister did not come empty handed to Sweden. Whatever disgust may have subsisted between the Courts of Petersburg and London, the connection had never been wholly broken off.—While we had entered into no engagements positively hostile to her, the wise and politic Princeſs who governs, and will continue to govern the North, ſaw, through the perplexities of our foreign ſyſtem, ſome glimmering rays of light by which Great Britain, in better times, might find her way to thoſe old habits and old friends, under the auſpices of which her proſperity and pre-eminence in Europe had been firſt obtained. For thoſe times ſhe had reſerved herſelf. Deciding, therefore, upon a ſacrifice of ſo much importance to Sweden, the British Mi- niſter might have demanded with reaſon a ſimi- lar pledge of her fidelity. But it is eaſy to per- ceive that ſuch an engagement would have fa- voured the views of Pruffia but in a collateral degree; and Pruffia was to be firſt conſulted. Bound hand and foot, and delivered over to Frederick William, the English nation was com- pelled to follow his ſtandard unconditionally, without the proſpect of any one ſolitary benefit to herſelf, whether of power, of commerce, or of navigation.

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