

Advantage which superior Skill in their own Language, naturally confers, and which upon some future Occasion, they may improve to our Detriment. Let the *original and authentic* Copy of the Treaty, therefore, be in a dead Language, the Phrases of which cannot vary, and whose Meaning is equally understood by both Parties. We had once a very learned Plenipotentiary in Queen *Elisabeth's* Time, who, in a Negotiation with *Spain*, when it came to be debated in what Language the Treaty should be made, ludicrously enough proposed to the *Spaniard*, who was giving himself Airs of Superiority, to treat in the Language of his Master's Kingdom of *Jerusalem*. But leaving the *Hebrew*, for our Divines; I would only have our Negotiators treat in *Latin*: Which seemed, as it were by Prescription, to have a Right to be the Language of the Public Law of *Europe*; till some late Instances have shewn that the *French* was beginning to be substituted in its Room; by the Laziness or Neglect of those who treated. As we are sanguine in our Hopes of a much better Peace than we had at *Utrecht*, with regard to the Terms; let it not be worse than that at *Utrecht*, which preserved the old Custom of settling the Negotiation in *Latin*. We then had a Bishop indeed, as Plenipotentiary; but without having Recourse to the very learned Bench, or chusing a Plenipotentiary from *Cambridge*, (I hope in a little Time one may join the other University, without giving Offence), the Negotiators at the ensuing Peace may be accommodated with *Latin* enough for the Purpose I mention, at a very moderate Expence — if their Secretary or Chaplain cannot assist them.

But when I begin to be ludicrous on so serious a Subject, it is Time to have done: And my Address has already swelled to such a Size as surprises myself