

it, is to leave the French to themselves ; not to conquer Germany, for that is impossible to do, but to harraßs it as much as they please, and make themselves as odious as we can desire.

If a regard for the interest of Europe in general ought to keep us from meddling in any German domestic war, the particular interest of Germany will be no less hurt by our engaging in it. One of the greatest calamities, which can happen to a country, is doubtless that of a civil war. A war between two members of the Empire is in respect to that head, under which they are all united, a civil war. There may be some difference between the degree of obedience, due from the several States to the head of the Empire, and that of the subjects of any particular kingdom to theirs ; but so far as the interest of the Empire is affected, and so far as the present argument is concerned, this is a German civil war. One of the most mischievous circumstances attending civil wars has generally been, that each side, being more animated by their party hatred, than by the love of their country, the weaker is too apt to call in a foreign force to its assistance. These always enter to serve their own purposes, and not that of the country in general, or of the particular party, which invites them. This begets a precedent, and excites the other party to take the same destructive measure. Thus the State is over-run with armies much greater than its own ; and every part of the country ravaged to the destruction