

there is a surer method of judging, and that is, by consulting the sufferers themselves, and listening to the language of their actions. What did they do on that occasion? The H——n chancery renouncing all their English connections, made the convention of Closter-Seven: by which, they agreed to give the French the possession of the country, desiring to live in a quiet state of neutrality. Happy, if they might have continued so: but soon after the K. of P. gained the victory of Rosbatch, and he did not think it proper to allow them to remain at peace. His arguments prevailed, and the army of Observation took up their arms again. The unnecessarily giving offence, is not the way to do good; and therefore I attempt no farther elucidation on this head. But whatever else may be dark in this mysterious transaction; one thing at least is clear; that, since the H—ns by themselves were content to sign a neutrality, and let the French stay in their country, we need not put ourselves to the annual expence of four or five millions to keep them out.

Here I may be told, perhaps, of the Duke de Richlieu's extortions, while the French army was in the country; and every benevolent mind will doubtless feel a just concern for the sufferings, which the poor people endured; far be it from me to attempt to lessen them. But the reader will recollect, that these oppressions were alledged as one of the pleas for the convention of Closter-seven's being broken;