

that the Erection of an Aristocratical Power in this Kingdom will stifle the Rage of Party-Divisions amongst us. The Confederacy of great Men is dissolved, as soon as the Rival Authority which connected it is subdued. An honest *Irishman* once ventured to shut some Game Cocks up together, *because they were matched on the same Side*; But upon his returning to feed them, he discovered with Astonishment, that for Want of an Enemy, they had begun the Battle amongst themselves, and were actually picking out each other's Eyes.

The same Persons who have clamoured loudest against the Preliminaries of Peace, might perhaps have exalted their Voices against the Continuance of the War; such Gentlemen even Impossibilities would not satisfy. A fair and temperate Judgment of the Merit or Demerit of any Peace is not to be formed upon the single Consideration of the Articles themselves, but upon an exact Knowledge of the Comparative Situation and Ability of the contending Parties at that particular Point of Time in which the Peace is made. — A War upon the Continent, incapable of being maintained or relinquished; An unfortunate Ally, whom it was equally dangerous to abandon or to defend; A gallant Nation, consuming itself between *Hanover* and *Portugal*, and almost overpowered by a full Tide of Success; These Circumstances, combined together, obliged us to consult our immediate and future Safety.