

Fortune, and how unaccountable must our Fate be? I confess the Prospect is dark and gloomy, tho' at the same time I am convinced the present Condition of *France* is such that the very Phantom of the old *Grand-Alliance* would strike her with Terror; and undoubtedly could it be revived, if the old Members of that renown'd Confederacy would but dare to act, the common Enemy must immediately submit; and suffer the Independancy of the several Powers of *Europe* to be placed on a solid and permanent Foundation—But that is a Blessing to be wish'd, not hoped for. When I consider the general Infatuation in *Germany*, the untowardly Disposition of its Neighbours, especially the flegmatick Measures and timorous Circumspection of the present *Dutch*, whose Ancestors were wont to be active in the common Cause, I am afraid the honest Zeal of *Englishmen* is vain. There has been for some Years past, and I have reason to believe that notwithstanding Appearances, there is at this time a strange *Vis inertiae* in that State, with a most unnatural *Gravitation* towards *France*, which it is impossible