

formed into a regular well-constituted Militia? Is not the *British* Navy superior to all others united? and may not that Superiority be preserved by good Policy, and due Encouragement to our Fisheries, Commerce, and Colonies? Why then should *Britain* exhaust its Blood and Treasure by Wars on the Continent, to make Conquests, or procure Benefits for other Nations? But if it be necessary for preserving the Balance of Power in *Europe*, to form Alliances, in opposition to the Designs of Universal Monarchy, why should *not our Part of any future War be at Sea*, the Sphere of our natural Strength, where we may serve our Friends most effectually, and injure our Enemies by intercepting their Treasures, which are the Sinews of War, as that Art is now exercised by mercenary Armies?

Had our naval Operations been conducted with Vigour, Oeconomy, and good Discipline *, in the former and late War with *France*, that could not have lasted so long, nor this ended so much to our Disadvantage, both with respect to *France* and *Spain*, as was manifest by the Successes of the last Year. But yet *France* seems to have prescribed the Terms of Peace, and kept back *Spain* from any Stipulations in our Favour; for what Reason is not easy to comprehend, since its Losses at Sea, and in *America*, were an Over-balance of all its Acquisitions by Conquest at Land. But that politick

* By Discipline is meant a just Distribution of Rewards and Punishments.