

Dunkirk, will not soon be forgot by them ; their Misfortunes and distress'd Circumstances thereby brought on some of them, will not fail of reminding them perhaps as long as they live. Tho' most Men of any Reflection were perswaded, that the *French* never intended to make any considerable Effort in Favour of the Pretender ; that their Scheme was no more then to create Disturbances in *Great Britain*, by Means of her own Countrymen, at as little Expence of *French* Troops as possible, to destroy *Britons* by *Britons*, as she had before in *Germany*, *Germans* by *Germans*, and divert the Attention of our Fleet from the Protection of our Trade ; tho' this Opinion was founded on a great deal of Reason ; for whatever Benefits we enjoy under the present Royal Family, of which no Man can be more sensible than I am, in whatever Misfortunes a Revolution would involve us by a Change in our Religion or other Means : They very little regard the King of *France* : Nor can it be supposed he troubles himself with the Mode of Worship, which prevails in *Great Britain*, provided it be not that of the Roman Catholick ; for I believe it would be no very pleasing Prospect for him, to see the Power of the Court of *Rome* extended, and its ancient Tyranny beginning to revive ; nor would it be very agreeable News for him to hear, that those Shackles of our Trade and L——y (our immense publick Debt) were struck off and annihilated. Yet all this I say in Praise of our Administration, for I do not profess finding Fault ; on the contrary, I am glad for my Country's Sake, when there is a Possibility of commending their Measures. And they certainly did right in taking all the Precautions against the pretended Invasion, as if it was really intended ; for (as a famous General of old said) " I did not think this could have happened, " would have been a very poor Excuse." But
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