

render it probable by shewing that I have Experience on my Side. Many of those who espoused the Cause of War vigorously in the Days of *Queen Anne*, and in the Beginning of the late Reign shewed, or pretended to shew, the utmost Zeal for hanging up those who brought about a Peace, became afterwards, when such a Change as I before mentioned had happened in their own Circumstances, as warm Advocates for pacifick Measures. I do not say this with any View of blaming them for this Change in their Conduct, for let Men have gone Wrong ever so long, it is always laudable for them to go right at last; and if to their Care of preserving Peace, they had joined an assiduous Application to the promoting Trade, reducing the publick Debt, and lessening our Taxes, they had most certainly prevented the present Disputes; for it is an unquestionable Truth, and they have themselves owned it, that nothing but the embarrassed State of *Great-Britain*, could encourage *France* to resume her ambitious Designs, or inspire her with any probable Hopes of carrying them into Execution.

If therefore this be true, and there be generally speaking such a Repugnancy between the Interests of *Great Britain* and the Interest of *France*, while this Thirst of Dominion governs her Councils, it is plain, that to secure ourselves, and to thwart them, the only Method left in our power, is to act with the greatest Oeconomy at Home, and to avoid entering into such Measures abroad, as must oblige us to be at such an Expence, as will necessarily subject us, not only to our present Load of Debts and Taxes, but to a much greater. If it should be objected that the present apparent Wealth of this Nation, our great Plenty of Plate, Jewels, and other valuable Effects, and the