

moved to an equal Distance *, and then the former begun by his Interpreter in Terms which the Faithfulness of History has transmitted to us; and though the Conference was unsuccessful, yet the Commanders retired with mutual Admiration of each others Sedateness and Temper. To treat in an Enemy's Tent, or Head-Quarters, is always construed as unfair, and seldom ceases to furnish Arguments to the other Power for pretending that under the Colour of a Treaty he was forced into Things, contradictory in themselves, cruel and oppressive in their Nature, and which nothing but Force and lawless Power could have dictated. This was the very Argument made use of by *Augustus I.* King of *Poland* against the Treaty of *Altrastadt*, signed and solemnly sworn to between *Charles XII.* of *Sweden* on the one Part, and *Frederick*, King of *Poland* on the other; which last threw all the Blame of that Treaty upon his Plenipotentiary, though he himself had given the Ambassador a *Charte Blanche*, in order to ease his Electoral Subjects of the Burthen under which they groaned †. His *Polish* Majesty insisted, that his Instructions to the Plenipotentiary were, to procure him *Christian and Equitable Conditions*; and that as the being obliged to renounce his Country and Dignity was neither *Christian* nor *Equitable*, and besides all this, *inconsistent with his Coronation Oath*, so he thought himself free from these forced Engagements, and entered *Poland* at the Head of those very Troops which had given the first Umbrage to his wavering and unfaithful Subjects.

From this Conduct of the King of *Poland*, your own Sagacity, Sir, will point out in a clearer manner

* *Livy*, Book 30.

† See the King of *Poland's* *Manifesto* August 10, 1709.