

Enemy, than becoming Friends, who enjoy'd the advantages of that Trade only by Permission.

But that the *French King* should invade our *Caribbee Islands*, and possess himself of our Territories of the Province of *New-York* and of *Hudson's Bay*, in a hostile manner seizing our Forts, burning our Subjects Houses, and enriching his people with the spoil of their Goods and Merchandizes, detaining some of our Subjects under the Hardship of Imprisonment, causing others to be inhumanely kill'd, and driving the rest to Sea in a small Vessel, without Food or Necessaries to support them, are Actions not becoming even an Enemy; and yet he was so far from declaring himself so, that at that very time he was negotiating here in *England* by his Ministers a Treaty of Neutrality and good Correspondence in *America*.

The Proceedings of the *French King* against our Subjects in *Europe*, are so notorious, that we shall not need to enlarge upon them; his countenancing the Seizure of *English Ships* by *French Privateers*, forbidding the Importation of a great part of the Product and Manufactures of our Kingdom, and imposing exorbitant Customs upon the rest, notwithstanding the vast Advantage he and the *French Nation* reap by their Commerce with *England*, are sufficient Evidences of his Designs to destroy the Trade, and consequently to ruin the Navigation, upon which the Wealth and Safety of this Nation very much depends.

The Right of the Flag, inherent in the Crown of *England*, has been disputed by his Orders in Violation of our Sovereignty of the Narrow Seas, which in all Ages has been asserted by our Predecessors, and we are resolv'd to maintain, for the Honour of our Crown, and of the *English Nation*.

But that which must nearly touch us, is his unchristian Prosecution of many of our *English Protestant Subjects* in *France*, for Matters of Religion, contrary to the Law of Nations, and express Treaties, forcing them to abjure their Religion by strange and unusual Cruelties, and imprisoning some of the Masters and Seamen of our Merchants Ships, and condemning others to the Gallies, upon pretence