

were previously union'd: especially as there was not any thing in this scheme, that might eventually draw Great Britain into an unnecessary expence to defend what is in effect her own frontier, but only gratifying the undertaker with such possessions, as no other neighbour sovereign could with any advantage enjoy, because the wealth that was raised from, and should have defended them, was otherwise disposed. But here we see a prince his own minister and disposer; not the dupe of court parasites, but one who can make what has been an expence to other princes, turn finally to his advantage, to his honour, and to the interest of his country; opening a trade by the canal of Ostend, and through a tract of his own dominions into Germany; not that this point is so very clear as may be at first sight imagined, but it however exhibits to our view a character meriting the highest regard: an example worthy the imitation of every sovereign, and whom every subject of whatever nation may behold with pleasure.

This scheme is therefore not so much to be regarded in the general plan, as in the conducting of it to a crisis, through a