

admit the accession of Sweden to her own treaties with Holland, or with Prussia, but stipulates secretly with the latter, that under certain circumstances she will assist his confederate, the King of Sweden, with a powerful fleet. The effect of this curious scheme will soon appear. Its end is obvious; its principle cannot be sufficiently reprobated. Whether, under any circumstances, it were expedient to enter into defensive engagements with Sweden, is surely a very serious question of general politics; but when a Minister takes upon himself to decide that question in the affirmative, the extent and purpose of such engagements surely becomes a consideration of sufficient magnitude to form a solemn national compact by itself, instead of being smuggled under a secret article in another treaty, the avowed object of which is wholly different. Such a proceeding deserves no better character than that of a direct, palpable, unqualified fraud upon Parliament and the country.

Next, as to the breach of them. Still avoiding to come forward in person, during the life of Joseph II. the King of Prussia, acting by his subsidies to Sweden, excites that monarch to break the peace with the Empress, and to attack her with a considerable land army, and the whole of his maritime force. The corresponding part  
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