

for *Britons* to have sought Peace, was by endeavouring at a Superiority over the Enemy. But we have so bilked and baffled the Designs of those who were well inclined to our Cause, so abused those who were engaged in it, so marred all Things, that if Heaven doth not do more for us, than we ourselves can do against us, we are irrecoverably lost. The Interest of the King of *Prussia*, or, what is more material, the Light in which he sees his own Interest, tho' so visible, so obvious, has been so little understood, or if understood, has been so little regarded (not I hope upon any Considerations which I shall immediately mention) by the Directors of our Affairs, that I will say a Word on this Head, tho' touch'd upon before. It is undeniably our Interest to raise the House of *Austria* to such a Height as to be a Balance to the Power of *France*, and that too as independently as possible of the other Princes of *Germany*. But from thence to imagine that it is the Interest too of the Princes of *Germany*, to fix such a Power in the House of *Austria*, is to reason for them upon the Footing of our own Interest; and not of theirs. It is the Interest perhaps of all the Princes in *Germany* (and I am afraid it is but too well understood by most of them) to depress the House of *Austria*, and lessen that Power which many of them have sensibly felt, and which is capable of being exerted on many more Occasions than that of *France*. It is more particularly and most certainly the Interest of those whose most considerable Territories are remote from *France*. For it is the Proximity of Power, which offends; it is the same in high as in common Life; a Person, tho' ever so opulent, at a Distance gives no Uneasiness. A rich Neighbour is often dreaded. Add to this that the King of *Prussia* is in Possession of the rich Province of *Silesia*; to which his original Title is no more