

Imperial Dignity concludes nothing. It's notorious, that it brings no Revenue to the Possessor; and that it is not true, that the Emperor moves, agitates, and determines at his Pleasure the Estates of the Empire, even without consulting them. The History of the two last Electors of *Cologne*, and that of the Elector of *Bavaria*, Son-in-Law to the Emperor *Leopold*, and Brother-in-Law to the Emperor *Joseph*, clearly prove the contrary. But this is not the Matter. The Question is, to know whether this Authority, such as it is, join'd as it has been for these 200 Years past, in the hereditary Power of the House of *Austria*, in the two Branches of that Family, will make so great and excessive a Difference in the Balance of *Europe*, that to make the Balance just, they must be obliged to take away a Part from thence, and put it on the Side of *France*. On which, without further arguing, I refer myself to Truths known to all *Europe*. Is it not a Jest, to call that the lesser Power, which oppresses the other? Takes Towns and Provinces, and actually detains them; and has carry'd on a War these ten Years past, too powerfully, not only against the other Power mention'd, but against the Half of *Europe*, united for the common Defence of their Liberty?

If after this you would have farther Proofs, I'll give you the Opinion of those Potentates that made the Treaty in 1689. They were