

place, an unfeigned loyalty; for it was the felicity of this princess, that her person was dear to all her subjects, nay, even to those who questioned her title; and this produced another advantage, which was a kind of coalition of parties, of which I rather chuse to say something at the end of this volume, because after the union, parties broke loose, again and threw us, as they will always do, into the utmost confusion. At the beginning of the war, the tories were as heartily for it as the whigs, and if they grew weary of it by degrees, it must be acknowledged, that they might be tempted thereto in some respects by the ill usage they met with. While the duke of *Marlborough* was esteemed a tory, his services were often extenuated, and though the parliament gave him thanks, there was a party that denied him merit. When he and the treasurer went over to the whigs, the scale turned so strongly in their favour, that none could be employed who were not of this denomination; and thus *Sir George Rooke* was laid aside immediately after he had gained a victory, honourable in every respect, but most honourable in this, that it was wholly owing to the prudence and conduct of the admiral. Before the whigs gained this ascendancy, and both parties were embarked in the cause of their country, their unanimity produced those supplies, which enabled our armies and fleets to act as they did; and taught the most haughty and faithless of all powers, that bounds might be set to its force, though not to its ambition. The last advantage I shall speak of, was the public spirit of parliaments in the queen's reign. If they gave in one session, they enquired in the next, and it is impossible to mention any remarkable expedition within the first six years, which was not examined and cleared up by such enquiries; so that the people saw and knew what they were doing, which encouraged them to pay cheerfully, at the same time that it put them upon endeavouring to acquire by their industry what might maintain them happily, notwithstanding these large, but necessary expences.

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