

The only war, which England is at this time engaged in, is a War with France. How much soever our attention may be diverted, or our affections warped towards this or the other power of Europe; yet that is the only State, which England is professedly at war with. France is its natural rival in time of peace, and its only formidable enemy in time of war. So far are we from having declared war with any other State, that Britain has scarce a contest subsisting with any other power in Europe. Russia, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, the Empire of Germany, and the several particular States of it, may each of them, at different times, wish us well or ill; but Britain has now no opposition of interest with any of them, and in a general national respect has very little to hope or fear from them.

If we take a comparative view of the strength of the two nations, whatever may be said at present of our naval force, it must be allowed that France is superior to us in its land force. Could we indeed revive the old Gallic constitution, which prevailed under the posterity of Hugh Capet; when France was divided, as Germany is now, among a number of independent princes, who after paying homage to the sovereign, made war with him, or one another, as they pleased: or had we the maritime provinces in our own possession, and the Dukes of Burgundy and Bretagne for our allies; we might then carry on a war of equality with the crown of France at land, and hope for such victories as those
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