

After this Declaration so noble in itself, and so generous even beyond Expectation and Example, it would be unbecoming to deviate from what has been hitherto professed both in the Speeches from the Throne, and in that emitted in the Face of all *Europe* at the Court of a Neutral Power. If the *French* be perfidious, let us religiously adhere to the strict Letter of our own Declarations, and not discover any Inclination to retract what of our own proper Motion proceeded from a Nobleness of Soul that is touched with the Calamities of others; and far from insisting upon the particular Part where Negotiations are to be conducted, let us rather submit that Point to a Neutral Power, since if Conditions tho' just and honourable in themselves were agreed to, yet the other Powers would be apt to say, that these were extorted at a Time when the Plenipotentiary was surrounded with his Enemies, as being in the Kingdom of that Power who was at War with the Sovereign he represented: It is not, Sir, without good Cause and sufficient Reasons, that the different Authors who write upon the Rights of Peace and War, have always fixed upon Neutral Places for treating of Peace, in order to come to an Agreement: Even when Generals proposed a Conference, the same was to be at a reasonable Distance from their Armies: Thus when the two great Captains *Hannibal* and *Scipio* came to a Conference immediately before the Battle of *Negarada*, it was not till their Guards were re-

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removed

*cessarily produce, have determined to make the following Declaration, — " That they are willing to send Plenipotentiaries to the Place which shall be thought most proper, in order there to treat conjointly of a solid and general Peace with those whom the belligerent Powers shall think fit to authorize on their Part for the attaining so salutary an End."*