

see us disposed to be the Knight-Errants of *Europe*, and while we are so employed, wait to see what Chance may produce for them. But if the Temper of the *Dutch* is not to be altered, shall we suffer them to become a Prey to the *French*? Without considering how reasonable or unreasonable it is for us to undertake their Defence, do we take the Way to save them, or if they are resolved not to be saved, shall we, or can we pretend to save them? What then, is the Queen of *Hungary* to perish, while we but look on. I agree it would be more eligible to support her: But if we have not the Option, it is better for us not to fall with her, and join our Fate to her's. If there is a Disposition in others to co-operate, if the Princes of *Germany*, the *Dutch* or other Potentates will afford us something to work with, it may be an Encouragement for us to attempt something, but without it we are as mad as if we would attempt to tread the Air, or walk on the Moon and Stars.

That the Chances of War are sometimes very surprising, I own, and a Handful of Men do Wonders; but would any one in his Senses engage at such Odds? Our Ministry ought to be well informed of the Inclination of the *Dutch*. If it is not certain that it is very different from any thing which has hitherto appeared, we have nothing to do but to withdraw ourselves from the Continent, collect our Strength within ourselves, and make War on the Trade of *France*, where we should wound her in her tenderest Part. The Money already spent on a Land War, employed on annoying the Enemy by Sea (in a Manner different however from what has been hitherto practised, particularly with Respect to Spirit and Vigour) would have ere now reduced