

directed him to represent the mischiefs which must ensue *from the Dutch provinces falling under the French subjection*; and to press King Philip earnestly to make peace, rather than run that danger. Afterward, when the Dutch Deputies declared, that if they were rejected by England, they must apply to France for assistance, the Queen was alarmed, and promised *to use her instances again, to procure them a reasonable peace*. In the year 1576, she sent accordingly Sir John Smith to Spain on the same errand. Her Majesty's reasoning on this occasion took it's ground first from *necessity*, saying, that the greatest princes and monarchs that ever were, have been driven sundry times to yield to necessity: Secondly, from *policy*, cautioning the King *lest the loss of these provinces should put in peril his other states and kingdoms, being divided so far asunder as they were*: And lastly from *prudence*, that by acceding to some compromise he would spare infinite treasure, that was most unprofitably employed in the weakening of himself, by the destruction of his own natural subjects. Not succeeding in these advices, she entered into a league with the States, and sent, in 1577, Thomas Wilks to Spain, with a manifesto of her reasons.

And