

1. Their government is absolutely monarchical; tax at pleasure; not accountable for monies expended in secret services (in Great-Britain, the article for secret services in the civil list, is small, and when the parliament allows any sum extraordinary for that use, it occasions a grumbling both within and without doors) in this they have the advantage of us, well knowing that not only private persons, but ministers of state, generals, admirals, even sovereigns may be bought or brib'd; the late E. of Or—d the grand master of corruption, when he gave himself the loose, at times declared, “that there was no private person or community, but what might be corrupted, provided their price could be complied with.” It therefore becomes the representatives of Great-Britain, narrowly to inspect into the conduct of their ministers, and other great officers in trust, especially in making treaties with France; the infamous treaty of Utrecht, 1713, was procured by the French court bribing our corrupted administration, that part of it relating to the British northern American colonies will in time be their ruin, if not rectified and explained. 2. By custom time out of mind, they are above, and do upon all occasions dispense with the principles of honesty and honour; superiority and power is their only rule, as Louis xiv. modestly expressed it, in the device upon his canon, *ratio ultima regum*: They occasionally make dupes of the other princes in Europe; their promises and faith are by them used only as a sort of scaffolding, which, when the structure is finished, or project effected, they drop; in all publick treaties they are *gens de mauvaise foy*. This may seem an unmannerly national reflection; but at this time it could not be avoided, considering their perfidiously exciting a rebellion in Great-Britain, contrary to their solemn acknowledgment and guarantee of the *Hanover* succession, by inciting the Highlanders to rapine and killing of their countrymen; their re-fortifying of Dunkirk in time of peace; their violating of their guarantee of the *pragmatic sanction*, concerning the Austrian succession, by inva-