

and spirited measures would fail, and ruin his popularity and interest, in the long-run, both with prince and people. In these infamous hopes they were defeated, and were distressed with our successes to a degree of madness. They sickened with our conquests, triumphs and glories; because acquired under the auspices of the man they hated; for supplanting them in their power, and extinguishing their reputation by the blaze of his glory.

At last, they took hold of a spirited proposal of his, to clamour against him, as a hot-headed minister; that would make the nation odious, ruin his country, and injure the Spanish merchants, by prompting the king, to send an armed fleet to demand satisfaction of Spain for her depredations, which, if refused, the admiral was immediately to make reprisals, and declare war.

This was the most judicious measure that could be pursued: yet hence, by artifices, they found means, with a young king, to rob him first of his influence, and by that to kick him out of his counsels and the administration. This pretence of the impropriety of sending a fleet to Spain, to demand a categorical answer, was a pretence embraced only to render him odious, and well calculated to affect a cowardly set of *Walpoleans*, whose system was, to take kicking rather than engage in fighting; however, the same measure was adopted in 1718, and in 1726, by sending out three fleets on the same errand; viz. one to Porto-bello, another to Spain, and a third to the Baltic. These fleets answered the design in 1726, and proves the justness of the measure advised by Mr. P—tt; which, in all probability, would have so disconcerted the house of *Bourbon*, by catching Spain, before she was prepared, and her treasures returned home, as to have prevented a Spanish war, and to have obliged the French to have complied with the terms proposed in our memorial of July 15, 1761. But if it had not done this, it must have thrown into our hands a mass of treasure, that would have spirited us in carrying on the war, and we might have sorely distressed the Spaniard by bombarding her towns, and plundering her coasts. It would have been better for the nation, to have paid the Spanish merchants their losses, than to have lost the opportunity. But thin-jawed *envy*, pale-faced *timidity*, and *cowardice* with her trembling hands and knocking knees, had diffused their poisons and their terrors into our councils.

Thus Mr. P—tt, having disappointed and disgusted the Jacobites and Tories, and the French party, by excluding them from office and power; and by traversing and disappointing all their views and expectations, raised the spleen of many of his party
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