

confirms the *Treaty of Utrecht*. What is done about the *Dutch Barrier*, or whether *France* is not at last to retain something in *Flanders*, is not very clear; and if *Gibraltar*, as some suspect, should come at the Tail of all, we are then blest with a Peace that never had its Parallel. There was something in the Face of the *Peace of Utrecht*, and those who negotiated it plainly thought that they made a good Peace; for, notwithstanding the Clamour raised against it, it was publicly proposed from the Throne, and its Contents delivered, by Authority, to the Consideration of all People, and in a Manner, that, to all unbiassed Minds, will ever be an Honour to it. The Preliminaries were not shamefaced, they did not steal into the World by Piecemeal, as if they were afraid of being censured; they came boldly before the great Council of the Nation, open, free, and undisguised; and if they did not contain all that could have been wished, neither had they a Rag of Dishonour about them. I should not have been very fond of making a Comparison between these two Treaties, if I had not been led at the same Time to consider how Faction presides over the Reason and common Sense of the Nation, and induces Men blindly to approve or condemn this or that Act, as they happen to be partially biassed; and I am afraid, that, until we learn better how to conduct a War, or are more cautious what Engagements we enter into, the *Treaty of Utrecht*, with all its inglorious Errors, will still be the Basis of our future Treaties with *France*; or, as was very judiciously said by one who had a principal Hand in