

with us and our ally to serve that her darling purpose. In this case *France* would undoubtedly have joined with *Prussia*, and a war in *Germany* would have been accelerated and rendered inevitable, which *Britain* laboured to avert. In such an alliance for such ends as *Austria* proposed, all appearances of success were by recent experience proved to be against us. The *Dutch* would not engage, and *Russia* was at too great a distance even in the author's opinion, *p.* 38, to be a very effectual ally. Thus circumstanced, we had nothing to expect from the *Austrian* project but a sure increase of expence beyond that of the former war, and a more than probable repetition of losses and defeats; at the end of which we should be obliged to sit down under a load of additional debt, with the doubled disgrace of having unsuccessfully broken thro' the most solemn treaty, first concluded at the instant prayer and for the immediate salvation of the house of *Austria*, and again renewed and confirmed for the same end and from the same motives.

In this situation the treaty of *Westminster* was signed in *January* 1756, merely with a view *p.* 94, 97, on our side to keep the *French* out of *Germany*; and on the *Prussian* side to be protected from a *Russian* invasion; without a single shilling to be paid by