

These are the only Means by which *Britain* or any other Nation can thrive. At present we are ill-grounded, we are wrong in Fundamentals. Good Gods! What probably will be the Consequence of either an inactive or an active Campaign. Inaction will be terrible to a People already exhausted. Action in the Situation we are unsupported by Allies, self-deceived in Numbers, will, I fear, but add to our Misfortunes. If those who command shall be able to surmount such Difficulties, it will greatly redound to their Honour; the Nation will be proportionably indebted for such Services, but the Task is hard upon them, and, I fear, Things have not been so prepared in the C—et, to give room for great Expectations in the Field. And yet it is upon this Hope, that we go on mortgaging every Thing that we are worth, and launch out such Lengths, that not only we ourselves, but latest Posterity will have occasion to curse our Folly. I would not that we should reckon too much on our Success in *Provence*; if it should occasion some Diversion of the *French* Arms from the *Low Countries*, will it not in some measure occasion a Diversion of the Queen of *Hungary's* Arms from the same Place, whose Numbers at other Times have been far from compleat? And I shall be glad if nothing else happens to distract and divide her Force.

But what can we do if the *Dutch* are averse to entering heartily into the War? Why? Convince them, that we have not, nor will have any other Object in View, but to humble the Power of *France*; this perhaps will be an Inducement, will give them a better Opinion of Affairs, and when we have done this, if we shall think fit to do less, they perhaps will do more. They see our Foible,