

If you fix awhile your Thoughts on all these Things, with an unprejudiced Mind, the Necessity which the Empire, *England* and *Holland*, besides other States, have been under to join their Forces and Counsels for their common Safety; the small Success the united Armies had in King *William's* War, and the Danger they were in of a total Subversion the Beginning of this, you will undoubtedly agree to take from the House of *Austria* one half of her Dominions, and give it to a Prince of the House of *Bourbon*; which must be the Means of restoring the Balance, and securing the Liberty of *Europe*; for certain it is, the more you take from the Weak and give to the Strong, the further we go from the Point of Equality, especially if the Forces of the Stronger be united, and those of the Weaker be divided and dispersed.

They do not deny the settling the Balance of Power between the two Houses; but, say they, that the House of *Austria* is not sufficiently weaken'd by her Losses; and upon this Supposition they now propose to us, as a *wonderful Expedient*, the taking from that House all *Spain* and the *West Indies*, and to leave her only the *Low Countries*, the Kingdoms of *Naples*, *Sicily*, and *Sardinia*; the Dutchy of *Milan*, and the Places on the Coast of *Tuscany*.

Now let us see how the *French* behaved to us, when they found the war was carried on very