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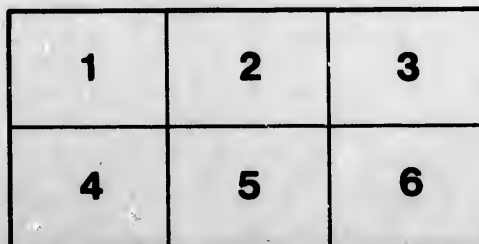
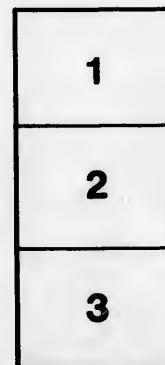
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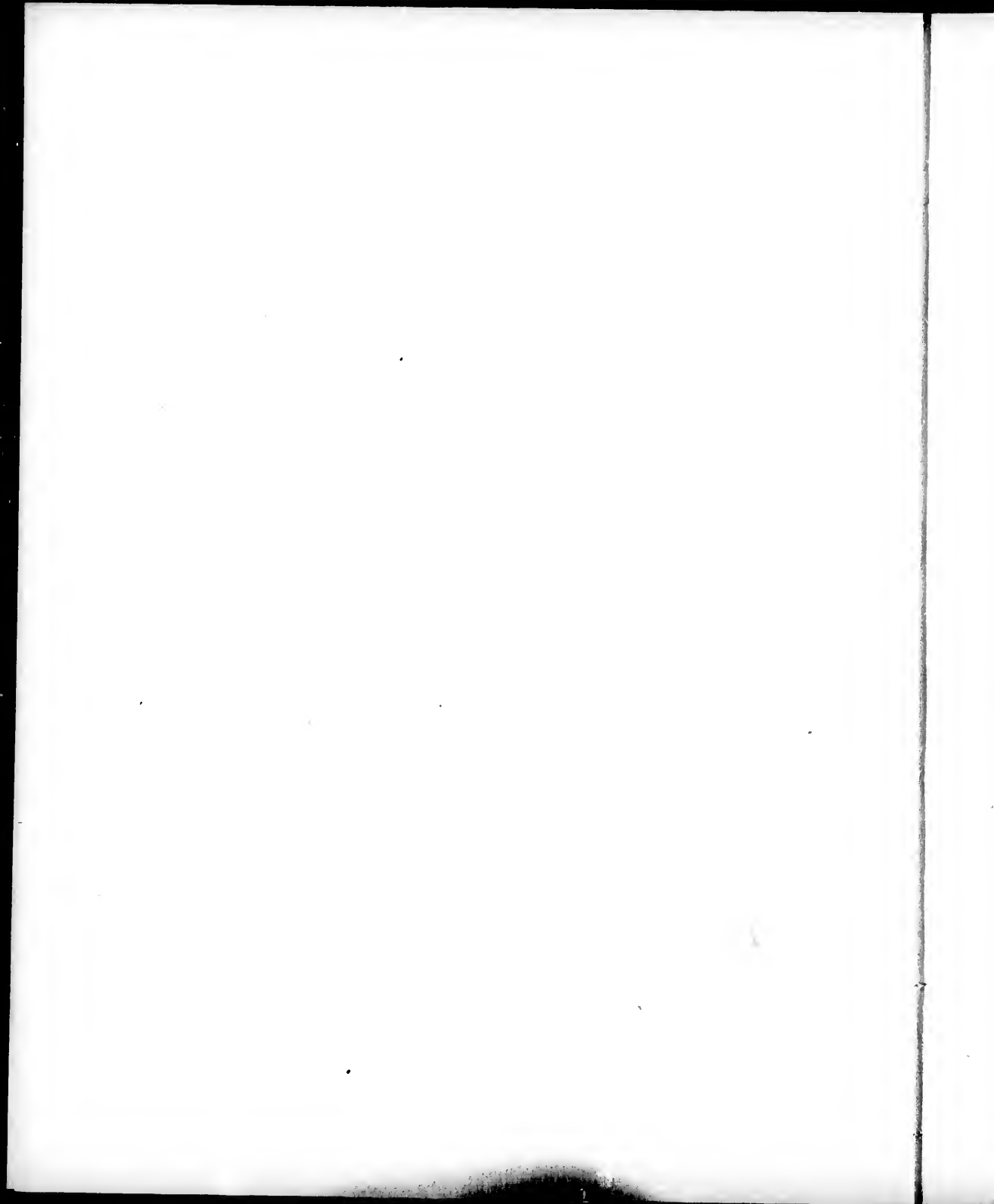
O Tempora ! O Mores !

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A  
L E T T E R

F R O M

J O N A T H A N 's, &c.

**W**HETHER we are indebted to any visible Change in our Climate, or the Constitution of Englishmen has received any Alteration by the many advertised Panacea's, both corporeal and political, I will not pretend to determine; but this much is certain, that our Ways of thinking are amazingly altered within a short Time, and with them, also, our Ways of Expression; every thing is to be taken figuratively, the North Briton implies an Englishman, and the South Briton a Scotchman; one Coffee-House is made to write Letters to the Country-Gentlemen, and another to attempt an Answer: I have, therefore, chimed in with this tropical Way of Writing; and, in my Title, have strictly adhered to this new-fangled Profopoeia.

I know not, Mr. Treasury, how the Preliminaries of Peace have operated at your End of the Town, where so many Placemen reside, whose Interest it is to take the Dose, and wash it down with a Libation of Lethe; but, on this Side the Bar, Murmuring, Railing, and Disquietude, seem to have fixed their Reign, and nought else is heard, but,—Oh! what a Peace!—I am ruined! Martinico and Guadalupe both given up!—What, and the Havanna too! It were in vain to expatiate upon the Propriety of the Measure, to shew the Justice and



Moderation of the Terms, or attempt to demonstrate the Advantages we shall derive from the Treaty; it is in vain the Map is called for, and the new Limits to our Colonies shewn; it is in vain I run my Finger all round Canada, and demonstrate what an Extent of Territory we have added to our Possessions: Nay, though I turn to Africa, and shew them the River Senegal, and talk to them of the Gum-Trade till I am hoarse, and positively assure them I am not concerned in the intended Monopoly;—they still shake their Heads, and cast an Eye upon the West Indies.

“ Were we to have accepted of such Terms of Accommodation as these, after having been so successful in every Quarter of the World; we had better have listened to the Proposals of France last Year, before we had put ourselves to the Expence of making War against Spain; laid out near a Million in the Reduction of Martinico, and more in that of the Havanna:—by the *uti posseditis*, we should have remained in Possession of all our Conquests, and saved all the Blood and Treasure we have wasted in the West Indies and Portugal;—besides, the French then only asked the Island of St. Peter's to cure their Fish; but not having made Restitutions enough, we have thrown Miquelon into the Bargain to them: It is true, we have the Appearance of retaining three of the Neutral Islands; but St. Lucia, which the French have restored, is much superior to St. Vincent, Dominica, and Tobago, put together: And as to the Grenadillas, they are so small, and of such little Value, it is immaterial who has them.”

This is the Way of Reasoning of your thorough-bred Patriots, who have for some Time traded to the new-conquered Islands, and found the Sweets of their Commerce; which they would have taken all imaginable Pains to have concealed, if we had retained these Acquisitions at a Peace, that they might have kept it all to themselves.

More moderate Men complain not so much of the Terms, as the Hastiness of the Negotiation, before we have had Time to reap the  
Fruits

Fruits of a Spanish War, taken two or three more Register Ships, and brought the Dons to Reason by dint of their Losses. This, Mr. Treasury, is the Language of our Coffee-House, which is composed of Men well acquainted with public Affairs, who have been concerned in almost all the Jobs, underwrote the greatest Part of the French and Spanish Merchantmen, have gained some Millions lately by the Rise of Stocks, and were in full Expectation of seeing Scrip. at 150, before the Preliminaries were published. What is it to them of what Extent Canada is, or the additional Country behind our Colonies, as long as Stocks can rise no higher, and a Reduction of Interest will necessarily ensue after a Peace? There may be some few at this Part of the Town very well satisfied with this Measure, who are closely connected with our West Indian Monopolies, and know that, now Martinico and Guadaloupe are given up, their Estates in Jamaica, and the other Islands, will retain their usual Price, and they may continue selling Sugars here for twelve and fourteen Pence a Pound, that they could very well afford for two Pence Half-penny, or three Pence. Had we kept those Islands, the Value of their Estates must necessarily have diminished, and the Prices of Sugar in Proportion. To this, perhaps, we were, but more so the French, indirectly indebted, for the great Condescension in the Patriot, who very politely, notwithstanding the Court of Versailles agreed to the *uti posseditis*, relinquished our Claim to Guadaloupe.

You tell us a your End of the Town, that we are to have the Liberty of cutting Logwood in the Bay of Honduras, and the free Navigation of the Ships laden therewith; a Concession never before made us by the Court of Spain; that the French give up their Pretensions to the Captures made before the Declaration of War, and that we are to be paid the Expence we have been at for supporting the Prisoners here during the War, which were Objects we could never before obtain, and which we cannot compute by the opposite Difference at less than two Millions and a half.—But pray will this Money circulate in the Alley?—Had it not been better that another Campaign should

have taken place? Twenty Millions more had been raised for the ensuing Year ;—we might then have had the fingering of a little, for Jobs, Commissions, Contracts, Advance-money, Bulls, Bears, good News and bad News, Peace and War, Scrip. above and under Par, for one more Year. Our Harvest is at an End ; and if those who are Losers have a Right to complain, we certainly have the justest Cause to find Fault with the Preliminaries, rail at the M—r, and abuse the Plenipotentiary.

I am sensible it may be urged, we have had a fine Time of it, and that we have not had such a Game since the South Sea Affair in 1720 ; —but what is this to the Expectations which we had raised, when every Man of us thought to have turned out Plumbs, considering the good Intelligence which we have carried on for some Time with the Dutch Gazetteers, and the Credulity and Timidity of the Generality of Stockholders, who buy in upon the most slender Report of good News, and sell out as soon as Stocks fall, for fear they should be under 50 ? —I say, Mr. Treasury, had you continued playing into our Hands, as you used formerly to do under some of your Directors, we should have been enabled to have purchased half the mortgaged Estates in England at the End of the War, bought Boroughs by Dozens, and perhaps at last, in despite of Religion or popular Prejudice, brought about that great Work, which we have still so much at Heart, I mean the naturalizing such of our worthy Brethren as have been circumcised, but who have as much Religion in them to the full, if not more, than many of us honest Christian Stock-Jobbers.

We do not here forget, it was sound Policy to extricate the King of Portugal and his Kingdoms from their present Difficulties, as otherwise there must inevitably have been a Stagnation of Specie, considering the continual Drains we have had upon us for upwards of Six Years from Germany ; and more especially as our Spanish Trade was interrupted by the War. —But could not our M——s have contrived to make a separate Peace between Portugal and Spain, without putting an End to this glorious War, by which we have reaped so much Honour,

Honour, and I might add Treasure? Those who were under Apprehensions that our good Fortune might be reversed, and that sooner or later the French and Spaniards might have made some desperate Attempt upon us here at home, never consider what a fine Effect that would have had in the Alley, after Stocks were rose to their utmost. — We should have had them down to 40, and a Week's Uproar would have made every Man of us.

You see, Mr. Treasury, we do not here find Fault for Railing-fake (though, to tell the Truth, there is a terrible Roaring of Bulls and Bears); we have just Grounds for our Complaints. — All we desired, was to make the most of the War, which was but reasonable, just and equitable, especially when it is considered how far Individuals have embarked their private Fortunes in endeavouring to distress the Enemy, and are great Losers by the Peace and Conditions accepted. Mr. Atall positively insists upon it, that we should never have given Peace to our Enemies till we had taken and destroyed every one of their Ships, as well Men of War as Merchantmen; and that, in this full Persuasion, he has fitted out two Privateers of considerable Force, which were just ready to put to Sea; and that he will never give up this Opinion, but promote it in all Companies, both public and private, unless the Government refund him the Expence he has been at, or grant him the exclusive Trade to some of the Islands we have conquered and retained. Mr. Beaver, who is not a little concerned in the Hudson's Bay Trade, has made it plainly appear to us all, that the Country of Canada is a perfect Desert, which no Europeans can inhabit by Reason of the Coldness of the Climate, which frequently occasions People's Noses to be frozen off from Night to Morning, though seated by a good Fire; that the Produce of the Country is trifling, and of no Consequence; and that we shall be out of Pocket by keeping it, considering the Expence we must be at to guard it from all future Attacks.

This being the Case, Mr. Treasury, and there being such just Grounds for condemning the Terms we have just accepted; I know

not what the most powerful Advocates for pacific Measures can urge in their Defence. It is in vain to attempt diverting the Attention of the People from the Object now before them, by raising and attacking the Phantom of a Party, who never did harm to any but themselves. — Cannot the old Gentleman retire in Quiet, after having spent Fifty Years in public, and more than as many Thousand Pounds in Election-Dinners, and ruminate upon his past Adm——n, which he has a Right to look upon as the most glorious of any our Annals can afford, without having the Fable of the Fly and the Chariot-wheel applied to him? Are his juvenile and athletic Abilities to be depreciated, or his oratorical Powers to be diminished, by puny Comparisons, and vociferous Parallels? Can he be blamed for not assenting to the present Peace, whereby we retain no Conquests of any Import, when he had so great a hand in accomplishing the glorious Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, whereby the Nation reaped so much Honour, and gained so many Advantages?

It is in vain to reproach another Personage of equal Dignity, with estranging himself from the public Service at so critical a Period, his political Principles having never been known fermented by the Rage of Party, or his Ambition excited by any other Post than that of First L——d of the T——y. This, indeed, he might think himself entitled to, considering his past Services, and the Length of Time he had devoted himself to public Affairs.

The Triumvirate is now broken, their noblest Leader has had the Mist dispelled, and we may expect to see his Coadjutors sink again into Power, and soften into Office.

I say, the Attention of the People will not be diverted from the Object so immediately before them, by this Spectre of Party, which cannot with Propriety be lifted under the Banner of Whig or Tory: They will expect a nice Inquisition into the Merits of the Preliminary Articles; they will expect some renowned Orator to rise up, and set forth,  
with

with his mellifluous Tongue, his flowing Eloquence, with all his oily Rhetoric :

“ That however inclined he might be to approve every Step,—to vindicate every Measure taken to restore the Tranquillity of Europe ;—he cannot now, without offering Violence to himself, and betraying the Trust reposed in him by his Constitutants ; nay, by the whole Nation, remain silent whilst the present Preliminaries were under Consideration. That, had *he* been inclined to have accepted of Terms much more advantageous than these last Year, *he* could have given the wished-for Peace, without putting the Nation to the immense Expence they have been at in the Reduction of Martinico and the Havanna, as well as the Assistance, though ineffectual, given the King of Portugal, as well as the other Operations of War ; but that *he* had resolved within himself never to consent to Peace, till he could at the same Time fulfil the Engagements entered into with the King of Prussia,—who had, during the Course of this War, been the only Bulwark of Protestantism in the Empire, and the only Means *whereby we had conquered America in Germany* ; but that the French desiring a separate Peace, though upon his own Terms, he strongly promoted a Spanish War, which was then rejected. That he hopes it will be considered, that Circumstances entirely change the Nature of an Expedient ; and though it was the highest Pitch of Rashness to enter into any German Connexions at the Breaking out of this War, when they were certainly and most incontestibly *a Millstone round the Neck of England* ; they in a short Time, from a Variety of concomitant Incidents, became our only Resource ; our only Hope ; our only Safety ; and, therefore, though he was in the Beginning so averse to grant a single Shilling to carry on any German War, from this unforeseen Change in the System of Europe, but more particularly in our own Ministry, he became more than lavish in his Grants for pursuing the Operations in the Empire ; and particularly for supporting the Prussian Cause and Pretensions, which were, in every Sense, so religiously just and equitable. From the same Motives, and pretty nearly the same unexpected

ed Circumstances, the Measure, which, during his Adm.—n, was so necessary and expedient, soon after became improper, and, indeed, abortive :—A Spanish War was in October eligible, but in November inadvisable and destructive. The Conduct he has chalked out to himself has ever been uniform and consistent ; whatever apparent Incoherences may have seemed therein, have only been latent Chains, and hidden Links, too nice and refined to be perceived by the vulgar Eye. Upon these Principles, may one account for his Conduct, in regard to a late Dowager, who bequeathed him a handsome Legacy, on Condition that he would not accept a Post under the Government ; which Promise he tenaciously observed during her Life, and would still have kept, had not his Country called aloud for his Services ; and all private Reasons and particular Considerations were set at nought, by the Good of the Community put in the opposite Balance. It would be needless, after this, to make any Apology for now rising up, to expose the *Impropriety*, to say no worse of the Preliminaries before them. The Good of his Country, and a constant Regard to every thing that relates to the Welfare of the State, are the only Principles of his Action ;—the only Sources of his Conduct. How then can he patiently bear the Restitution of all our valuable Conquests, the Price of so much Blood and Treasure ? How can he hear without Emotion, that *Guadaloupe*, the Garden of the West Indies, is to be restored to the French ? and that Martinico, that rich and valuable Island, is to share the same Fate, as well as St. Lucia, our Right to which has been so fully and clearly evinced ?—And what are we to have in Return ?—Why, *Minorca* ; alone *Minorca*, which has been repeatedly proved not worth protecting.”

A Speech to this Effect, Mr. Treasury, or in even more striking Terms, may yet, we hope, produce the desired Effect, that is, prolong the Negotiation ; so that at least defensive Measures may still be pursued, and all the Avenues from us to you may not be entirely shut up. If, notwithstanding the vigorous Efforts to demonstrate the *Impropriety*

priety of the present Preliminaries, Peace should speedily take place between us, France, and Spain, all our Hopes will then be centered in the King of P——, whom we have all possible Reason to suppose will not quietly submit to the Terms imposed upon him by the Empress-Queen: He will not easily yield his Pretensions to Silesia, if we may judge from the Cause and Manner he began this War, and the Method by which he has conducted it; so that we may hope still to see the Flames of War continue lighted in Germany, which may sooner or later rekindle the latent Embers of our scarce extinguished Fire.

The just Ambition, and equitable Fortitude, of that Prince may inspire him with the Resolution to surprise Europe with another unexpected March from Brandenburg to ——— some Part of the Empire, where, amongst the Papers he shall seize, he may find the Clue of a Design, to strip him of his Dominions; and such a Discovery may entitle him to treat the Inhabitants with the same Severity he did the Saxons in 1756. He then may make a Truce with Austria, in order to join her against his Enemies; a fresh and more bloody War than ever may be kindled in Germany: and, if we may judge from our past Conduct for above a Century, we must necessarily take Part in it, to keep the *Ballance of Power* in due Equipoise. Hence fresh Levies, new Embarkations, Contracts, Subsidies, Jobs and Subscriptions; and we may once more, Mr. Treasury, play into each other's Hands to our reciprocal Advantage, and *our Country's great Emolument*.

} I am aware, that your half-bred Politicians will talk to you of the immense National Debt with which we are now loaded, and which is so impracticable for us to pay, that it amounts to more than Twelve Times the Sum Total of all our Specie: That our Eyes are at length cleared from the Delusion, and we shall not hereafter fight the German Princes Battles, and pay them at the same Time for their great Condescension in permitting us to do it: That we shall look to our own Concerns, our Trade, Navigation, and Colonies, and not increase our public



blic Debt a hundred Millions more, in pursuit of that Phantom the *Ballance of Power*.

But these shallow Reasoners would do well to consider, if our Predecessors, from the Time of King William, had adopted these political Maxims, what would have become of the Protestant Cause in Germany? It is true, we have by Turns sided with Papists as well as Protestants: but we have always had Religion, directly or indirectly, in View; and we can look upon the present War in Germany as no other than a religious one; for which Reason we should the more tenaciously adhere to the King of P——, and support him in it.

Your great Sticklers for pacific Measures pretend we have done more for the King of P—— than ever he did, or ever will do, for us; that he brought this War upon himself, and we have nevertheless hitherto been his principal Support in it, and have now engaged the French to evacuate all his Dominions they were possessed of. They then ask this reasonable Question, Would he, or could he, have done as much for us, had we been invaded? And, add, Our Allies have always befriended us so much, as to let us be attacked with Impunity, from the Time of William the Conqueror, down to the last Rebellion;—when, indeed, the Dutch were kind enough to send over six Thousand Men for our Defence, whose Hands were tied up from fighting.

I shall not take upon me, Mr. Treasury, to point out how far we should assist the K— of P. after we have made Peace for ourselves, nor pretend to argue what Expectations we might have had from him, had he been in our Situation, and we in his; or will I take up the Glove in Vindication of the Conduct of our Dutch Friends in 1745, who might, nevertheless, have had very cogent Reasons for what they did. All I pretend to remark is, the War is not yet at an End, as the Advocates of pacific Measures pretend, and we may still hope to see a good *Diverſion* in Germany.

From

From what I have said, you will perceive we, at this End of the Town, do not entirely agree in our political Notions. Some, as I before remarked, are of Opinion, we should have made Peace last Year, before we had run ourselves to the Expence of the last Campaign; because then, they pretend, we might have kept Guadaloupe, whose Sweets they have already tasted, and which they are very averse to part from: Some few, who find their Advantage in having no more West Indian Islands than we are already possessed of, chime in with the present Terms; but we, who have absolutely nothing but the real Good of the Nation at Heart, insist upon it; and, I think, have fully proved, that we should not have made Peace, as long as the French and Spaniards had a Ship of War, or Merchantmen left; and, in full Persuasion that you will acquiesce with me in this Opinion, through the same Motives, subscribe myself,

Your constant Friend, and

Much obliged humble Servant,

J O N A T H A N's.

