Nation were for taking such measures as to preserve the Peace of Europe without entering into a War, and keeping the Balance in its due Poize, without making use of such Means as certainly would incline it to the French Interest. The most Christian King had not such a Distraint of His own Strength, nor such an ill Opinion of above Two hundred thousand compleat Troops, and as well regulated as any in Christendom, that he stood in fear of any Insults whatsoever, but was willing to see his Grandson not mount His Throne from Heaps of slaughter'd Carcasses, or swim to the Possession of Both Indies thro' a Sea of Blood; and tho' 'tis well known He might have relied on the offensive Part, and been very Troubleome to some Neighbours, He made it His Choice to wait the Motions of those he had Reasons to call Enemies, and would prepare only to resist Force by Force, should any be so hardy as to attack him. Since therefore he was powerful and strongly provided with such numerous Armies, those cannot be thought to be Friends to France, that took time to put themselves likewise in a Posture of Defence, that endeavour'd to oppose His Designs without a Declaration of War, and made Armaments by Sea and Land, in hopes that the report of their Strength might induce him to stand by the Peace, in surrendering up such Cautious Places to England and Holland, as should be agreed on by the Parties concern'd.

What their Sense was, the Author of the three Essays told us before the Parliament sat; the manner of his expressing it speaks it to be publish'd with their Allowance, and those who know his Conversation with them, were persuaded it was. "If any among us (says he) seem at present willing to embrace peaceful Councils, and to decline entering upon immediate Action; 'tis not that they doubt themselves, or dread the adverse Strength, or
"that their ancient Enmity to France is buried in
Oblivion. --They are not so apprehensive of
Coping with any foreign Strength, as they are
feartful they shall be compell'd to enter into
fresh Conflicts with the Enemies of ENG-
LAND, whom they had almost subdu'd, &c.
Their Ears can never endure the Cries of the
Poor, for want of Work, &c. 'Tis a mon-
strosous Tenderness and Compassion, which can en-
dure rather to see Popery and Slavery display
their Banners in this Land, than to behold the
Calamities which a new War must bring upon
their Country. If he can see how they can be
kept out without a War, he sees things in quite
another Light than what any honest Englishman
does.

Answ. A Gentleman in a great Station who must
need is be a Priz'ry Councillor at least, would scarce drop
any word that should let Count Uratilaw know that
the Bent of the Court was not for a War, and if
the Author would reflect with himself who got Mo-
ney the last War, and heip'd up considerable Treas-
ures, who manag'd the Funds that were given
for the Publick Security, for their own Private
Interest, and occasion'd such a Deficiency in 'em,
as is now but too visible; he would scarce bring them
in for Sticklers against it. Besides, His Majesty
their Master's Martial Genius, His aversion to the
French Interest, and his desire to bring down her
growing Greatness, are such convincing Arguments
for these that are in Places under him to be of the
same Sentiments, not to enter into Discourse with the
Emperor's Minister that should be so unpleasant to
him, and which he could not but expect would come
to the King his Master's Ear, who had espous'd the
Austrian Family's Interest. As for Dr. Daven-
nant's Book, the Arguments of it are of such
weight with all thinking People, and the Reasons for
a Peace so poignant and strong, that if the Honse
O 2  did
did actually allow he spoke their Sense, they must needs acknowledge he has done 'em all imaginable Justice in expressing it.

One would think he thought but slightly of a War, when he tells us, that one of the greatest things to be dreaded in it is, that 'twill bring those Men into play again, who never gave us the least suspicion of their being in any other Interest than that of their Country. 'Tis very easy to perceive what his Designs are, both in running down those Men, and labouring to give us a dismal Idea of a War: But he and his Friends tell us, that his Book shews him to be plainly for a War. 'Twas cunning in him to say something, for fear of falling under the rage of an injured Nation; and 'twas Policy to grant him a Dispensation to do it, lest by being too plain in handling an odious Subject, he might put it out of his Power to do any Service for the future. He seems sometimes to write for a War, but (which shew'd his Inclination) voted against it amongst the 161: he ought indeed, he said, to do otherwise, but fear H--m'd to pleasantly upon him, that he could not divide against him.

Answ. If 'tis the Interest of the People of England to have the Publick Treasures exhausted, and those entrusted with the care of it that were of slender Fortunes, and consequently would endeavour to raise themselves by the fingering it; if they acted for their Countries good that postponed every other Consideration to their own enrichment, and like a certain Pay-master, that tells the Publick Money over a Gridiron, and challenges all for his own that fall's thro' it, got incredible Estates from very small Beginnings, then the Dr. is infallibly in the wrong. But, if it be not sitting that those who have been guilty of such Male-Administration, could be brought into the Ministry again, if th...
Idea of the War is dismal enough of its own nature, more especially when that Nutriment that should feed it, and those Funds that are the Sinews of it, are made over to other Purposes, where are the Essays upon the Ballance of Power to be found fault with, that State the Case as it really is, and give us so clear an insight into the Miscarriages that are likely to attend too precipitate Consultations? He lays down the Reasons both for and against a War so clearly, and handles it with that sincerity of Judgment, that he leaves the Reader wholly to determine which is most advisible in our present Condition, and a Gentleman of his known Integrity and Sense, that has refused several Offers to engage with another Party, in any understanding Man's Opinion cannot be thought to be prevail'd on by a Smile, especially when Mr. How's Reasons are well known to be more Cogent than his Looks.

When he speaks for a War, 'tis very coldly, and in other Places he takes care to destroy the Force of what he said; in one place he tells us "That we reap little from a War but the Perils and Losses with which it is like to be attended. This is but a small Encouragement to it. In another he is afraid "such a Debt will be at last Contracted, and most of it abroad, as in time must impoverish and sink England. What then must we do? Why, "all Englishmen ought seriously to consider this Reflection which M. ICHIAVEL makes, That when a Prince, or Commonwealth, arrives at that height of Reputation, that no Neighbour, Prince, or People, dares venture to invade him (unless compell'd by indispensible Necessity) he may do what he pleases. In all probability, says he, The French are now arriv'd to this formidable pitch of Greatness, unless the Spaniards shew more Courage than has appear'd in any Measures they have taken these last hundred Years."
A Person that writes impartially, must as well show the Difficulty of an Enterprize, and point out the Misfortunes that may casually attend it, as buoy up his Reader's Imagination with the hope of Success; and if the Dr. tells us we can Reap little by a War, &c. it's no more than what is visible to any Man of Sense, since we have no Pretensions on our own Parts, either upon France and Spain, and whatever Articles are concluded on between the Emperor, France, and Holland, as the Result of a War, it is to be feared, neither Offend or Newdore will fall into our Hands, any more than the Rich Town of Carthagena, since we have much the same Right and Title to the Mines of Peru and Mexico, as we have to any individual strong Hold in Flanders. As for the French Greatness, I presume, we can lay nothing to detraction from it, and I must agree with the Dr. that unless the Spaniards revive that Courage which has been in so long a State of Declension, that their Ancient Monarchy's Grandeur will be forgotten and swallowed up in the Glory of that which has now furnished it with a Prince, that cannot make it Greater than the Kingdom he drew his first Breath in.

If this be so, that the Power of the French is grown too great to be resisted, and we have no hopes but from the Spaniards taking good Measures, we are in a very miserable Condition. But 'tis here he shews us some hopes yet, "If they can so prevail, as to make their young Prince become a good Spaniard; if they can divide him from French Councils, --- if the quiet Reception he is likley to find make French Councils, and French States, ports no longer necessary to him, those parts will be somewhat allay'd, which we now bourn under. But are there any hopes they will be for? Yes sure, very great; "He give us promising Hopes of his Person, and that
martial young Prince, if he be endow'd with any share of his Grandfather's Conduct and Wisdom, may put Spain into a better Condition than it has lately been, to oppose France in any Attempts it may hereafter make upon the Liberties of Europe.

An. w. Either the Spaniards must take measures disagreeable to the French Interest, or the Emperor's Army in Italy is not likely to make very Successful Campaigns, or keep Garrison in the Castle of Milan; and if they can't prevail with their young Prince to become a Good Spaniard, 'tis very probable he will be accounted an Excellent Frenchman. It is our Business therefore undoubtedly, not to fall out with him, but since we have Recogniz'd his Accession to the Throne, to live in Amity and a good Understanding with him, that he may not be forc'd to put his whole Dominions under the Protection of France, and surrender up the Netherlands to his Grandfather and his Heirs forever by a Treaty of Partition, which would be very disagreeable to England and Holland, in order to preserve the rest of that vast Monarchy to himself.

O wonderful Contrivance to serve his Masters and persuade England to lay aside all thoughts of War! Could he expect to do it by such little Stitches as these, to scare a great and warlike People with his paltry representations of the Power of France? Or to lull a wise Nation asleep with such a silly prospect of Security? Yet this is one of the great Machines which C---t Tal---rd: the chief Fr---ch Engineer in England has made use of, not only to bomb great Ministers, and every thing he has a mind to reduce to Ashes, but to batter down all the strong Holds and Fortresses of our Religion and Liberties. This is he that
is careless'd by great Men of our own Court; this is he that is employ'd to teach young Gentlemen the Business of the Nation; who is to tell them in print a little before the Session begins, what they are to do the next Session. If this be our Condition, that the weighty Affairs of the Kingdom must be manag'd by Senators, who are to learn their Wisdom from such a Wretch as this, in Charity we ought to pray for them, in the Language of our Saviour, Forgive them, for they know not what they do; but for ourselves, in those which we write over the Doors of Pelt-houses, Lord have Mercy upon us.

Answ. Now the Man of Argument is fallen into a downright Rapture, and is troubled with an Oratorical fit by way of Exclamation! The Dr. said, the young King of Spain gives us promising hopes of his Person, &c. and may learn from his Grandfather's Politicks how to Oppose France in any Attempts on the Liberties of Europe. Where is the harm in these Expressions, thou great Lover of Interjections; that art mov'd by such a sudden Passion of the Mind? Does an Ambitious King mind the Ties of Blood, or Obligations of Kindred? Will a Prince that rules over a Jealous turbulent, and Proud People as the Spaniards are, so far endanger the Loss of his Crown, as to act contrary to the Sentiments of his Subjects. Have not they been bred up in an Aversion to the French Nation, and almost sworn at the Altars in their very Infancy as Hannibal against Rome, to maintain a perpetual Enmity with 'em. Are not they at this time uneasy at the Conduct of the Regency that have permitted so many French Gentlemen to attend their King, and will they ever shake off thos
their Resentments for some indignities latey offer'd by them to the Natives? 'Tis impossible they must lose their very Natures before they can part with their Hatred; and if the Dr. is Ca'esd by great Men of the Court, its certainly a sign that he cannot be in the Interest of France, or King Will. must have a very Treacherous Ministry.

If he, who in times of the greatest Danger, when it most nearly concern'd Fre:ce to try the power of her Gold here in England, has been highly courted by her Tal---rd, and given very great demonstrations of his Zeal to gratify the Ambition of that Kingdom, can make himself and Interest, not only to be protected in his Inclinations, but to be courted likewise by a Party, and besides all this, to have the Honour confer'd upon him, of being made the Leader of the Blind; 'tis easy to see what in a short time must be our Doom: that between the Management and Conduct of Men of too much Intrigue, and too little Understanding, we must fall under the Dominion of French Tyranny and Popery.

Answ. An Ingenious Man will be carefull'd by Men of all Persuasions, and Count Tallard was such a Judge of Conversation, that he could not miss him amongst the rest of those Polite Gentlemen he made his Court to; and if to discourse with a French Minister, or sit at Table with him, is a Token of being Brib'd by him, we have several Noble Peers, and amongst them great Officers of State that have spent an Evening with his late Excellency, and have certainly been Partakers of his Largeesses. But without doubt our present Ministry is of another stamp, and the Gentlemen in it are too well satisfy'd with their Places of Honour and Profit, to contribute anything towards the support of an Interest that is contrary to theirs; and the Dr. is Remarkable for such a Love to the Welfare of his Country, and such an earnest desire for its Prosperity, that he is ready to forego any mercenary Advantage whatever, and prefer
its Consideration to all things that are accounted valuable.

This the Kentish Gentlemen thought they had Reason to fear, would be the Effect of the Measures taken by our Parliament, before they offer’d their Petition. To descend to the particulars of their Proceedings, which brought them under the so universal Censure and Displeasure of the People, would be too invidious an Undertaking, and raile this little Discourse to a much greater bulk than I design’d. My Intention is only to shew, that the Gentlemen had Reasons to offer their Petition at that time. If one or two good ones are sufficient to justify them, and they may be taken notice of without any great Offence, I must desire my Reader to rest satisfied with my mentioning them. Matters that are nicer and not so well bear touching, I leave to be handled by Men of more Penetration, whose Fears (I will not say Concern) for the Publick are greater perhaps than mine are.

Answ. Popery and Slavery have been at too great a distance from Kent, or any other Part of the Kingdom for these twelve Years last past, to make the Subject apprehensive of any ill Effects from it: And his Reasons must be better than any he has given yet to persuade us to believe that his five WORTHIES fears had any grounds for ’em, at least such as deserve to be handled by an Able Pen than his own, that has such a mighty concern for the security of the Publick.

If those Petitioners were really persuaded that Fr.—cb Gold had any influence in the management of Publick Affairs, ’twas a sufficient Reason for them to endeavour by such a Petition, either to make the Ho—fe of Com— take other Measures, or to dispose the other parts of the Kingdom to follow their Example. That they were of this Persuasion, we have very good Reasons to believe. We know what one of the five Gentlemen
en said in a very publick Place, some Weeks before the Petition was offer'd, to Sir Fr----cis
---ld, a Member of Parliament, concern-
ing the Inclination of the Ho--se of Com-
---ns to serve the Fr---ch K---g. 'Tis not pro-
able that that Gentleman would have been so
bold to speak openly, to a Member who was en-
tirely in the Interest of that Party which he
inspected, words which the other call'd Seditions,
if he had not reckon'd it a Service he owed his
Country, in a very great and dangerous Crisis.
Answ. A Man cannot be really persuaded of the
truth of a Matter, unless he satisfies himself from Oc-
cular Demonstration, or other indubitable Proofs;
wherefore the Kentish Petitioners must either ac-
tually have seen Count Tallard distributing his English
Gold, or receiv'd the Truth of it from unquestionable
Authority, or according to their Advocate's own Argu-
ment which is a convertible Proposition, their Petition
must be groundless; and 'tis not to be suppos'd but any
one of that Company which had Forehead enough to
behave themselves so Irreverently to the whole Body of
Parliament, would not stick to affront Sir Francis
Child who was only a single Member of the House.

About the time they petition'd, this suspicion
was grown so universal, that what a Gentleman
told Sir Ed---rd Sey---r in Hampshire, near the
time the Parliament rose, that we were bought
and sold, was the Voice of the People every
where. This Jealousy must run very high, and
there must sure be very good grounds for it,
when a very great Lord could say, in a very Au-
gust Assembly, just two days after that Petition
was deliver'd, that some things that were done,
shew'd that there was Fr---ch Money in the Cafe.

Answ. Without doubt Sir Edward Seymour re-
turn'd a suitable Answer to the Hampshire Gentle-
man, and was not wanting in his vindication of that
House he had the Honour to be a Member of: and
what a Great Lord said in a very August Assembly
was spoken in relation to other Peoples being suspected of Bribery not the House of Commons whose Honour he has the highest Deference for.

But this was not all. Those Gentlemen say as I observ'd before, that not only all the leading Men of that Party, which bore sway in the Ho--se of Com--ns, but some leading Men in the Nation likewise, us'd all possible endeavours to drive People from the thoughts of War. This those Gentlemen, and the bulk of the People thought the greatest Service that could be done to Fr---ce, and that the certain consequence of that would be, that in a little time we must be content with what Religion, what Liberty, and what Trade Fr---ce would be pleas'd to allow us. This being their sense of things, 'twas a sufficient Reason for them to do what they did.

Answ. He has already prov'd the Kentish Gentle- men's sight was not good, because they could see nothing at all of the Matter, but took it upon Hearseay, and yet he dwells upon the Commendation of the clear- ness of their Forecast, and brings in the Bulk of the People, that is the whole to justify what was done at a Goal delivery, and vindicate what neither the Bench of Judices could add a sanction to by their sub- scripts, or the W. scarce their Impertinent Deputy by their Imprudent behaviour at the Bar of the House of Commons.

What a happy Nation should we be, if others would imitate them in their Zeal, and virtuous Concern for the Publick! Now is the time for Englishmen to shew themselves. Things are brought to the highest Crisis that ever was seen in Europe. Fr---ce plainly designs the Universal Monarchy: 'Tis War only that can determine, whether she shall have it or no. If she prevail, our Fate is manifest we must come under the Dominion of French Popery and Tyranny. If the industrious, the Misery and Devastation which the
she will bring into her Kingdom, will be greater than, perhaps, she may be ever able to su-
mount. In this Case England will not only con-
tinue in Possession of her Religion and Libe-
ties, but become the greatest Nation in the
Western World. What our Fate shall be, de-

pends upon our Management now.

Ansl. What a senseless Nation should we be, should
other Counties imitate their folly, and take a Pattern
from their unadvis'd Conduct! What an unhappy
State would the People of England labour under,
should they take the same Resolutions to Affront their
Superiors, and fall out with those Patriots that
have done as much for the Preservation of these Realms,
as ever Parliament did or People could expect! Our
Alliances are maintain'd, Our Fleets are out at Sea,
Payment is taken care of for the Publick Debts, and
Parliamentary engagements to the lasting Honour of
this Session are once more accounted sacred. What
could be the done on the Part of the Subject, or hop'd
for to the Assistance of the Prince?

'Tis plain, that without a War we are undone,
so we may with it, if those who have the Manage-
ment of Publick Affairs, should happen to be in
the Interest of the abdicated Family, or common
Enemy, or should be upder the old Prejudices a-
gainst the Dutch, which were in the late Reigns.
We know what suspicions we have had, and
what grounds there were for them; this makes
it absolutely necessary, that the Nation repre-
sent it self anew. 'Twould be very surprizing
to fee the present Par---nt fit again, when a
great Party in it has given such Umbrage to the
Nation; when they were thought (as far as it
was possible for them to venture, without plain-
ly discovering themselves, and becoming too
notorious) to do all that Fr---ce could desire to
have done. If their Conduct throughout the
Session was such as made it evident, that their
Address to the King, towards the latter end,
was only design'd to prevent their Dissolution, or secure their Election if they should be disolv'd; 'twould be as strange to see this Par-
al continue, as 'twill be to see some chosen a-
again, if it should be dissolv'd. 'Tis upon that
Election the Fate of England depend: if care
be taken to chuse Persons, who love our present
Protestant Settlement, and have no manner of
Bills to France, or the Abdicat Family, no-
thing can prevent the Ruin of France, and Eng-
land's being made a great and flourishing King-
dom.

Answ. 'Twould be very surprising therefore should His Majesty give Ear to some ill dispos'd Peoples
Advice, and dissolve that Parliament that has shewn
such Loyalty to his sacred Person, such an Affection
for his Confederates, and such a Zeal for the Pro-
estant Interest both at Home and Abroad, that no
Session can Parallel. More Money has indeed been
raised in the late War, but never more in time of Peace
when so many Debts were left unpay'd by the precedent
Parliaments, and so many Incumbrances on the Publick
Faith, so that it is not to be doubted, but the same King
that has been supported by 'em should ask Advice of
the same Councillors, and that Princes who promis'd
to meet 'em again in Parliament next Winter, and
gave 'em such instances of his Satisfaction in his Speech
at their last Prorogation, will continue the sense he
has of their good Services, and have a reliance on
their Fidelity so far as to be in a farther condition
of returning 'em thanks again for what they shall do
for him.

APPEND
APPENDIX.

1. A List of such Members of this present H— of Com—, as refus’d the Voluntary Association in 1695.

Sir J—es Eth—dge.
Ld. H—de.
I.—n M—st—n.
I.—y Fl—ng.
I.—n Tr—m.
I.—s Gw—n.
Anthony H—nd.
Sir E—d S—wr.
I.—n Gr—il.
Th—s Str—ys.
Th—s F—ke of Dor.
I.—d F—nds.
I.—n H—w.
R—d H—w.
Th—s Br—ton.
I.—r Sh—ly.
Sir J—n B—lies.
G—rt D—en.
Sir R—rt J—son.

H—ry F—nch.
Sir E—d N—ris.
Th—s R—ley.
I.—mes B—rty.
I.—n K—ston.
Sir J—n Tr—an.
H—ry H—mes.
Sir J—n L—son G—re.
Sir H—ry G—gh.
I.—n L—knor.
W—m Br—ley.
I.—s Gr—il.
Sir Ch—r M—dr.
R—rty B—rty.
W—m H—vey.
H—ry P—nil.
S—l S—ft.
R—t B—ley.
Sir J—r J—rys.
Sir J—n C—ay.

B. Names
B. Names of the Persons Committed by the House of Com---n this Session.

To the Tower.

JOHN Parke, Esq;  
John Paschal, Esq;  
William Cotesworth, Esq;  
Samuel Shepherd, Esq;  

Mr. William Colepeper.  
Mr. Thomas Colepeper.  
Mr. David Polhill.  
Mr. Fulphian Czupneyes.  
Mr. William Hamilton.  

These were taken into Custody of the Serjeants at Arms, and after sent to the Gate-house.

To Newgate.

Mr. Lawrence.  
Mr. Glover.  

Mr. Edward Martyn.  
Mr. John Dunsmil.  
Mr. Clayton.  
Mr. Perki.  
Mr. Story.  
Mr. Jeffreys.  
Mr. Bourman.  
Mr. Mason.  
Mr. John Newkirk.  
Mr. Marsh.  
Mr. Brandon.  
Charlwood Lawton, Esq.  
Mr. Alexander Cuttine.  

Mr. William Adye.  
Mr. Edw. Allen.  
Mr. Julius Sandborne.  
Mr. Joseph Whimbleston.  
Mr. Warham.  
Mr. John Haysham.  
Mr. William Clifton.  
Mr. Edward Whitacre.  
Mr. John Whitbrough.  
Mr. James Buckly. Jun.  
Charles Mason, Esq.  
Mr. James Buckly, Sen.  
Thomas Terry.

FINIS.