

# HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION. xliii

| Kings of GREAT<br>BRITAIN and<br>SPAIN.                  | Ambassadors.   | Treaties ; years.   | Where signed, and<br>by whom.               |
|--|--|---|---|
| GEORGE I. of<br>GREAT BRITAIN.<br>PHILIP V. of<br>SPAIN. | BENSON, lord<br>BINGLEY, ambas-<br>sador, 1713.<br><br>Sir PAUL ME-<br>THUEN, October<br>1714. | Treaty, Decem-<br>ber 1715 †.                             | MADRID.<br>BEDMAR,<br>GEORGE BUBB:          |
|  | Mr. CRAGGS,<br>Mr. BUBB, mi-<br>nisters, December<br>1715.                                     | Convention for<br>explaining the Af-<br>fiento, May 1716. | MADRID.<br>BEDMAR,<br>GEORGE BUBB.          |
|  | JOHN CHET-<br>WYND, envoy ex-<br>traordinary, 1717.  | Treaty of 1718.   | HAGUE.<br>Lord CADOGAN.<br>Marquis de PRIE. |
|  | Colonel STAN-<br>HOPE, minister,<br>1720.  | Treaty, June<br>1721 *.                                   | MADRID.<br>STANHOPE.<br>GRIMALDI.           |

‡ This treaty is very short, contains little new, confirms the former, but revokes the three articles so injurious to GREAT BRITAIN, which were tacked to the treaty of UTRECHT, and called *explanatory*. These were the III. V. and VIII.

† This settled the restitution of the ships taken by lord TORRINGTON and Sir GEORGE WALTON in 1718. The Spaniards are perpetually objecting to us, the injustice and illegality of that measure of attacking their fleet in the time of profound peace, and without any declaration of war; but those who will take the trouble to peruse CORBET's account of that matter, will find that Sir GEORGE BING sent an officer to the Spanish minister, to acquaint him with the design and destination of his fleet; and that the minister sent him word back, that he might go and execute whatever commission the king his master had given him. See also, for the same purpose, *the memoirs of the Marquis ST. PHILIP*.

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Kings of GREAT BRITAIN and SPAIN.      Ambassadors.      Treaties; years.      Where signed, and by whom.

BENJ. KEENE, esq; (afterwards Sir BENJAM. KEENE, knight of the BATH) was appointed his Majesty's consul at MADRID, March 1724.

He was appointed his Majesty's minister plenipotentiary to the King of SPAIN, Aug. 1727.

GEORGE II.  
PHILIP V.

BEN. KEENE, A. STURT, Jos. GODDARD, commissaries.

Convention,  
May 1728.

P ARDO,  
STANHOPE,  
KEENE,  
M. de la PAZ,  
D. J. PATINHO.

Col. STANHOPE,  
Lord HARRINGTON.

Treaties of 1729  
and 1731\*.

SEVILLE.  
STANHOPE.

Treaty of 1731.

VIENNA.  
Duke of LIRIA.  
Sir THOMAS ROBINSON.

BEN. KEENE,  
envoy, 1733.

He was appointed his Majesty's envoy extraordinary to the King of PORTUGAL, May 1745.

\* These two treaties related to the neutral garrisons in ITALY, and were owing to our being tired of the congress at SOISSONS. The quadruple alliance stipulated, that *Swiss*, and not *Spanish* troops, should be sent into ITALY, to maintain Don CARLOS; but the treaties of SEVILLE changed it for Spanish, and not Swiss troops. That is to say, the court of SPAIN carried its point.

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| Kings of GREAT<br>BRITAIN, and<br>SPAIN. | Ambassadors. | Treaties; years. | Where signed, and<br>by whom. |
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He was appointed his Majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the King of SPAIN, October 1748.

WILL. FINCH,  
brother to the Earl  
of WINCHELSEA,  
envoy extraordinary,  
1732.

Convention of  
1739\*.

P ARDO.  
M. de VILLARIAS.  
Sir BEN. KEENE.

FERDINAND VI.  
of SPAIN.

Treaty of 1748 †.

AIX LA CHA-  
PELLE.

Treaty of 1750 ‡.

MADRID.  
FERD. ENSENA-  
DA.  
Sir BEN. KEENE.

Sir B. KEENE  
died.

\* The Affiento suspended at this time. The balance between ENGLAND and SPAIN was 96,000 pounds; but the secret article took away 36,000 pounds. The difference could not be adjusted, and the war broke out.

† By the tenth article of the preliminaries, and the XVI. of this treaty, ENGLAND was to be paid 100,000 pounds reimbursement, and the right to the remaining four years of the Affiento was settled; but it was afterwards sold by a convention, and occasioned the treaty of 1750.

‡ In this the 100,000 pounds were again settled and agreed on, the *explanatory* articles of the treaty of UTRECHT again abolished, and the Affiento and the annual ship given up. All former treaties confirmed.

Kings.

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| Kings of GREAT BRITAIN and SPAIN.                                      | Ambassadors.  | Treaties; years. | Where signed, and by whom. |
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| CHARLES III. of SPAIN.<br>GEORGE II. and GEORGE III. of GREAT BRITAIN. | His Excellency the right honourable GEORGE WILLIAM, earl of BRISTOL, ambassador extraordinary, and minister plenipotentiary from his BRITANIC Majesty to the court of MADRID †. |                  |                            |



An ACCOUNT of the SPANISH MATCH.

HERE it may not be improper to give a short account of that strange affair, the *Spanish Match*; because the court of SPAIN hath been frequently charged with the breaking off that matter; but in the following relation, extracted from Mr. *Howell's Letters*, who was upon the spot at that time, it will appear probable that the fault lay on the other side, and not at PHILIP's, but King JAMES's door.

In December 1622, Lord DIGBY and Sir WALTER ASTON went out joint ambassadors under the great seal of ENGLAND, especially commissioned about the *Spanish Match*; Mr. HOWELL, afterwards clerk of the council, soon followed their Excellencies; Mr. GEORGE GAGE came likewise from ROME to MADRID, to treat about it. The match was first set on foot by the Duke of LERMA, but was not so warmly adopted by his successor the Count d'OLIVAREZ. GONDOMAR at this time left ENGLAND,

† He arrived there, September 8th, 1758, and left that court, December 17th, 1761, without taking leave, because his Catholic Majesty did not chuse to give an explicit answer to the court of GREAT BRITAIN, but only said, *Muy bien esta*, (*Very well, Sir*) on which the rupture ensued.

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returned to MADRID, and brought with him Lord DIGBY's patent, that made him Earl of BRISTOL. The business of the match went on very briskly for near four months, when, to the surprize of the Earl of BRISTOL, who knew nothing of the matter and of every one else at MADRID, the Prince of WALES, and the Marquis of BUCKINGHAM, arrived on the latter end of March 1622, at the Earl of BRISTOL's house, late in the evening. The Prince went by the feigned name of THOMAS SMITH, and the Marquis by that of Mr. JOHN SMITH.—They were attended by the Lords CARLISLE, HOLLAND, ROCHFORD, DENEIGH, the Knights Sir FRANCIS COTTINGTON, Sir LEWIS DIVES, Sir JOHN VAUGHAN of the GOLDEN GROVE, and his son, comptroller to the Prince, Sir EDMUND VARNEY, Mr. WASHINGTON page to the Prince, Mr. PORTER, and others.

THE arrival of the Prince of WALES in MADRID was like the rest of his father's politics, and instead of forwarding the match, marred the whole business. The Spaniards having such a pledge in their hands, rose in their demands, and thought they had it in their power to *treat* just as they pleased. Besides this, the Spanish court took a disgust at BUCKINGHAM, and he and the Earl of BRISTOL disagreed extremely about the conduct of that business. The nobility in SPAIN were very much averse to this alliance; the Bishop of SEGOVIA wrote against it, but was banished from court for so doing; the common people in SPAIN were strongly for it. In ENGLAND, the parliament and commons would never consent to it.

Upon the arrival of the Prince, the court of SPAIN sent back the dispensation to the court of ROME, in order to be better modelled. When the dispensation was returned to MADRID, it came back clogged with new clauses: the Pope required a caution to be given for the performance of the articles: this made a difficulty: the King of SPAIN, however, offered to give the caution, but desired to consult his divines upon it, who, after a tedious debate, gave his Majesty permission. Upon this, the King of SPAIN and the Prince mutually swore to, and ratified the articles of marriage; and the 8th of September following, 1623, was fixed for the betrothing her to him. But soon after, *Pope Gregory*, who was

a friend to the match, died, and *Urban* succeeded; whereupon PHILIP declared, he could not proceed in the match unless the new Pope confirmed the dispensation which was given by the former. This created fresh delays; the Prince remonstrated warmly, and insisted on the necessity of his departure. The King of SPAIN consented to his going, provided he would leave him and DON CARLOS *proxies* for the match: this was accordingly agreed on: and thus the Prince, after seven months stay, and a fruitless errand, set out for ENGLAND in the month of August 1623, without his Infanta. The Lord RUTLAND waited for him at sea with the fleet, on board of which he embarked at BILBOA. The Infanta in particular, and the Spaniards in general, were very much afflicted at this Prince's returning without her. The King of SPAIN and his two brothers accompanied him as far as the ESCURIAL, and on the spot where they parted PHILIP erected a pillar, which remains to this day. The Prince, in his passage, very narrowly escaped shipwreck, Sir SACKVILLE TREVOR having the honour of taking him up.

NOTWITHSTANDING this abrupt departure of the Prince, the ENGLISH at MADRID, and at home, were still persuaded the match would be effected at last; and not without good grounds; for the Infanta learned English, took the title of the Princess of WALES; the ladies and officers that were to go with her were named. But there was one very extraordinary circumstance, which happened at this juncture: The Prince of Wales, just before he embarked, sent a letter to the two ambassadors, desiring them, in case the ratification came from ROME, not to deliver the proxies he had left in their hands to the King of SPAIN, till they had heard further orders from ENGLAND.—But this both the ambassadors very wisely refused to do, as the Prince could not suspend their commission from King JAMES under the great seal of ENGLAND; on the contrary, they both made extraordinary preparations for the match, the Earl of BRISTOL laying out 2400 pounds in liveries only, upon that occasion. At length the ratification came from ROME; the marriage day was appointed; but just a day or two before it drew on, there came *four* English messengers to the Earl of BRISTOL, commanding him not to deliver the proxies till full satisfaction was made for  
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the surrender of the Palatinate. This step of King JAMES's put an entire end to the business of the match. The King of SPAIN said very truly, that the Palatinate was none of his to give; but that he would send ambassadors to recover it by treaty, or an army to regain it by force; and in proof of his sincerity in these promises, he offered to pledge his Contratation-house at SEVILLE, and his Plate fleet. This not being thought satisfactory, the Earl of BRISTOL took his leave, when the King of SPAIN gave him a ring off his own finger, and plate to the value of above 4000 pounds. This Earl of BRISTOL, by far the most eminent of the DIGBY family, was a very extraordinary character, and a truly great man; he surprized the Spaniards with his virtues as well as talents: the rewards and honours paid him by PHILIP were but equal to his deserts; for he even astonished that Prince, when he found, that neither the bribes of one monarch, nor the menaces of another, could in the least shake the steady temper of that ambassador.

THUS ended the affair of the Spanish match, that had been near ten years in agitation. It is certain, that the breaking of it off was the work of the Duke of BUCKINGHAM: whether he did right or wrong will now perhaps be difficult to say; but I am of opinion, that we could not have been so much prejudiced by having MARIA of SPAIN for our Queen, as we were afterwards by taking HENRIETTA of FRANCE. The women of the MEDICIS line do not appear to me to have done the world much good. As for the deserted Infanta, she married afterward to the Emperor.

E R R A T A.

In the Introduction, p. 27. for *timeously*, read *timely*. Last line, for CAMPEACHY, read HONDURAS. P. 221. l. 1. for *El Aventurarara*, read *La Aventurarara*. Ib. l. 19. for *El Venganza*, read *La Venganza*. P. 220. l. 21. for *El Nueva*, read *La Nueva*. P. 214. l. 20. for *Estramadura*, read *Estremadura*. P. 208. l. 16. for *struck*, read *stuck*. P. 198. l. 4. for 1661, read 1061. P. 188. l. 12. for *called them*, read *called him*. Dele the Note at bottom. P. 182. last line but one, for LICINIUS LARIUS, read LARTIUS LICINIUS. P. 295. for BAGER, read BAYER. P. 297. for *eundem*, read *eandem*. P. 300. for *Chaldic*, read *Chaldee*. Ib. for *Cleward*, read *Clenard*. Ib. for *Vergera*, read *Vergara*. P. 303. for *Honorettes*, read *Honoratus*.



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# P R E F A C E.

THE compiler of the following papers having had the honour to attend his Excellency the right honourable GEORGE WILLIAM, Earl of BRISTOL, his Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary to the court of MADRID, in quality of chaplain, for near two years; he made it his business, during his stay there, to collect such informations, hints, and materials relative to the present state of SPAIN, as might either gratify the curiosity of his friends, or prove of some utility to the public in general.

FOR this hath ever appeared to him to be the true and proper design of *Travelling*, to bring back such notices of foreign countries, as may correct any prejudices and errors we have entertained concerning them; such as may improve our present opinions, and contribute to form a just idea of different nations. This employment may be more useful, though, perhaps, not so flattering to the imagination, as that of reading *Virgil* upon the banks of the *Mincio*, *Horace* upon the *Aufidus*, or *Homer* upon the *Scamander*. Writers of authentic accounts of countries, though beneath the attention of elegant genius, and not rising to the higher claims of taste and *virtu*, may notwithstanding be more serviceable to the public, than the purchaser of a decayed *Titian*, the recoverer of a rusty *coin*, the copier of a defaced *inscription*, or the designer of an old *ruin*.

IT is, perhaps, to be wished, that the generality of our young travellers would give more of their attention this way; the subject is not exhausted, and the object is of much greater moment, than the dresses of one country, or the tunes of another; than  
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