

THE peace of AIX-LA-CHAPELLE seemed to have restored tranquillity to EUROPE: FERDINAND, nevertheless, still kept up all his land-forces, and gave orders for augmenting his marine with the utmost diligence. The Marquis de ENSENADA, who was now prime-minister, being sensible of the great prejudice the Spanish commerce sustained by the clandestine trade carried on by foreigners with their colonies, gave orders for guarding the American coasts more strictly than ever. These orders being obeyed with the utmost vigilance, were not only disagreeable to the trading nations of EUROPE, but to the Spanish colonists themselves, who, the following year, rose in arms in the province of CARACCAS, obliged the Spanish troops to retire into the fort of LA GUIRA, and declared for a freedom of commerce. Upon the news of this insurrection 1500 men were embarked at CADIZ, who, upon their arrival at AMERICA, were so successful as to quell the rebellion.

FERDINAND, in the mean time, applied his chief attention to regulate the internal policy of his kingdom, and inspire his subjects with a spirit of industry. He particularly aimed at promoting and encouraging agriculture, the truest source of the riches of a state possessing an extensive territory; he granted charters for establishing manufactures of fine woollen cloth, and gave great encouragement to some English ship-carpenters and weavers, who had been tempted to go and settle in SPAIN; he ordered no less than 20,000 vagrants to be apprehended in the different provinces, and to be employed in tillage and country improvements; and in the end of summer, he opened the communication between the two CASTILES, by a fine road, forty-six miles in length, on which were no less than 283 aqueducts, and 7 bridges of fine architecture, the whole being begun and finished in five months, under the direction of the Marquis de ENSENADA. The King was enabled to prosecute his designs by the immense wealth which at this time poured into SPAIN; for as the English, towards the end of the war, had acted with great vigour at sea, the colonists waited for a peace, before they would embark their treasure for EUROPE, and it now arrived to a great amount, and likewise during the two following years.



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THE Spanish and British commissaries, in the mean time, were employed in negotiating the disputed points betwixt the two courts, which were at length finally settled by a treaty concluded at MADRID on the 5th of October 1750. By this treaty the King of GREAT BRITAIN gave up his claim to the four remaining years of the asiento-contract, and to all debts the King of SPAIN owed to the English company on that account, for an equivalent of 100,000 l. sterl. His Catholic Majesty engaged to require from British subjects trading in his ports, no higher duties than they paid in the time of CHARLES II. of SPAIN, and to allow the same subjects to take salt on the island of TORTUGA. All former treaties were confirmed, and the two princes promised to abolish all innovations that appeared to have been introduced into the reciprocal commerce of both nations. These innovations, however, not being specified, it was the same thing as if no mention had been made of them at all. Thus the most material differences being suffered to remain undecided, most unhappily gave rise to another war; whereas, if the controverted claims had been clearly and candidly discussed, and the differences settled by a friendly communication of mutual advantages, which no ways excluded precision and distinctness as to the extent of those advantages, the two nations might have lived in amity without interruption, and thereby promoted each other's prosperity. Tho' gold be the idol of traders, yet it is far from always contributing to render a state flourishing and happy; and if the English merchants shall violate treaties in search of it, it would be more for the honour and interest of this nation to punish the offenders, than to enter into a new war in their defence.

THE remaining years of FERDINAND's reign, after the signing of the treaty of MADRID, were very barren of events. The English court were jealous of his attempts to introduce the woolen manufacture in SPAIN, and reclaimed their workmen in that branch, who had passed over thither. New disputes likewise arose betwixt them, on account of the English trafficking with the Indians of the Moskito-shore, who had never submitted to SPAIN, and claimed to act as a free nation. FERDINAND, at the same time, had the mortification to find it impossible to introduce a spirit of industry among his subjects, the favours and encouragements of the court  
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being like rain falling upon a sandy desert, where there was not a seed or plant to be enlivened by it. In the year 1754, the marquis de ENSENADA was unexpectedly disgraced, and the department of the INDIES, one of the places he enjoyed, was conferred on Don RICHARD WALL, secretary of state for foreign affairs, who had lately returned from an embassy in ENGLAND. About two years after, a war breaking out betwixt GREAT BRITAIN and FRANCE, FERDINAND declared, on that occasion, that he would adhere to the strictest neutrality; but he was far from observing the neutrality he professed, and partially favoured FRANCE in a great number of instances.

His queen dying in the end of the year 1758, he was so affected with grief, that he entirely abandoned himself to gloom and melancholy; and neglecting both exercise and food, threw himself into a dangerous distemper, which, after preying upon him for several months, put a period to his life the year following, on the 10th of AUGUST. As FERDINAND left no issue, he was succeeded by his brother, Don CARLOS, King of the Two SICILIES, who resigned that kingdom, and disjoined it from the monarchy of SPAIN by a solemn deed, in favour of his third son, Don FERDINAND; setting aside his eldest son on account of his weakness of mind or idiocy, and reserving his second son for the succession of SPAIN. Don CARLOS, or CHARLES, arrived in SPAIN in the month of NOVEMBER, and soon after entered MADRID in great pomp and ceremony.

IT would neither be prudent nor decent in me to enlarge on the transactions of the present reign, those particularly relating to GREAT-BRITAIN, which are recent in every one's memory. I shall only observe, that whoever will peruse the letters lately laid before the parliament, relating to SPAIN, will plainly perceive the candour of the court of GREAT-BRITAIN, and the ability of her ministers; and that the SPANIARDS artfully, and with the greatest injustice, sought a rupture, for which they have since paid very dear, by being obliged to desist from their pretensions to a fishery at NEWFOUNDLAND, and likewise to cede to us all FLORIDA, and to allow us to cut logwood in the Bay of CAMPEACHY.



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*An account of the Ambassadors, Ministers, and Envoys, from the Court of GREAT-BRITAIN to the Court of SPAIN, from the year 1600 to the breaking out of the present war, with the titles of the Treaties and Conventions during that period. The treaties prior to that, may be found in the Corps Diplomat. tom. IV.*

Kings of GREAT-BRITAIN and SPAIN.	Ambassadors.	Treaties; years.	Where signed, and by whom.
JAMES I. PHILIP III.	Earl of NOTTINGHAM and Sir CHARLES CORNWALLIS, the latter left ambassador, 1605.	August, 1604.	LONDON. Earl of DORSET, VELASCO, &c.
	Sir JOHN DIGBY, ambassador, 1618. See <i>Rushworth</i> .		
	Sir WALTER ASTON, 1620.		
	Lord DIGBY, ambassador extraordinary, 1621.		
	Prince CHARLES, Duke of BUCKINGHAM, Earl of BRISTOL, employed in negotiating the Spanish match, which had been then seven years in agitation. N. B. See <i>an account of this match at the end of this list</i> .	April, 1622.	
PHILIP IV.	Sir WALTER ASTON, ambassador, 1623.	Concerning the Palatinate, 1623.	Kings



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Kings of GREAT-BRITAIN and SPAIN.	Ambassadors.	Treaties; years.	Where signed, and by whom.
CHARLES I. of GR. BRITAIN.	Sir FRAN. COTTINGTON, ambassador.	November, 1630.	MADRID. COTTINGTON. COLONA, DE ROSAS, PHILIP.
The Protector.	Mr. FANSHAW, resident.	1643. Cedulas granted to ENGLAND, March 1645. See the <i>British Merchant</i> , v. iii.	
	Mr. ASCHAM, envoy, killed in his lodgings at MADRID, by some English cavaliers.	May, 1653.	
CHARLES II. of GR. BRITAIN, during his exile.		A league, 1657*.	
	Lord CLARENDON.		
	Lord COTTINGTON †.		
CHARLES II. of GR. BRITAIN, restored.	Sir RICHARD FANSHAW, 1662 †.		

\* This was a league made between CHARLES II. of ENGLAND, and the Archduke LEOPOLD, Governor of the Low COUNTRIES, which gave King CHARLES liberty to reside at BRUSSELS, with the promise of 6000 men, 6000 livres pension, and 3000 to the Duke of YORK. An amazing treaty to be made by a poor and banished Monarch,

† They stayed two years, but effected nothing; and were at last sent away, lest they should see the pictures which formerly belonged to CHARLES I. of ENGLAND, and had been bought by the Spanish ambassador.

† He died at MADRID, 1666. The letters and papers relating to his embassy were printed in octavo, LONDON, 1702.



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Kings of GREAT-BRITAIN and SPAIN.	Ambassadors.	Treaties; years.	Where signed, and by whom.
CHARLES II. of SPAIN.	Earl of SANDWICH, 1665.	Treaty of May 23, 1667*.	MADRID. SANDWICH. NIDHARD. D'ONATA. PENNERANDA.
	Sir WILLIAM GODOLPHIN, ambassador in 1668 †.	Treaty of July 8, 1670. †	MADRID. PENNERANDA. GODOLPHIN.
		League of 1680.	WINDSOR. D. PEDRO DE RONQUILLO. SUNDERLAND. Lord HYDE. JENKINS. GODOLPHIN.
JAMES II. of GR. BRITAIN.	None.		
WILLIAM III. of GREAT-BRITAIN.	Count SCHONENBERGH, minister from GREAT-BRITAIN and the STATES GENERAL, 1699. §		Kings

\* This treaty was contrived by Sir WILLIAM GODOLPHIN, then secretary of the embassy, and has been the basis of all the treaties since.

† This gentleman continued at MADRID many years after his embassy expired, and died there in 1696, leaving an estate of 80,000 pounds sterling. The heirs were cheated out of the greatest part of it, which went to found the church of St. George in MADRID. See *Cole's Memoirs*, p. 20. He died a Roman Catholic. During the Popish plot, the house of Commons addressed the King to recal him, as he was accused by OATES of being concerned in that plot; but he did not chuse to venture himself home.

‡ This is the American treaty, and the only one we have for settling disputes there. It chiefly relates to the freedom of our navigation to the Spanish West India-Main; but is not confirmed by the treaty of 1750. That point remains still unsettled.

§ His name was BELMONT: he had been agent for the Prince of ORANGE before the Revolution, and was by no means acceptable to that court. From a letter



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		ALEXANDER STANHOPE, envoy, 1699.*	
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Queen ANNE of GR. BRITAIN.	Earl of PETERBOROUGH, ambassador extraordinary, 1706.		
CHARLES and PHILIP, contenders for the crown of SPAIN.	General STANHOPE, envoy extraordinary, 1706. Both to King CHARLES of SPAIN. †		

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ter of his, to the Earl of MANCHESTER, dated September 23, 1700, in which he mentions a memorial he gave to the Spanish ministers, both in the name of the King his master, and of the States, I conclude that he acted as English minister after Mr. STANHOPE left MADRID.

\* He was ten years in SPAIN in a private character; but was soon recalled from his public one, because the court of GREAT-BRITAIN had desired the Spanish ambassador, the Marquis de CANALES, to leave LONDON, on account of an insolent memorial delivered to the Lords Justices, September, 1699.

† General STANHOPE, taking advantage of the broken state of King CHARLES's affairs, concluded with the Count d' OROPEZA, Prince LICHTENSTEIN, and the Count de CORDOVA, Admiral of ARRAGON, his plenipotentiaries, a treaty of commerce, which, had that Prince gained possession of the crown of SPAIN, would soon have indemnified ENGLAND for the expence we were at on his account. The substance of the treaty was,

1. A sincere peace between the two crowns.
2. All treaties of friendship and commerce renewed, and all royal cédulas and privileges formerly granted, particularly those of PHILIP IV. confirmed by the treaty of May, 1667.
3. All prisoners on both sides shall be set at liberty, without ransom.
4. All merchandize brought into SPAIN by the subjects of GREAT BRITAIN, for which custom, under the name of consumption, or other tolls, are usually demanded, shall not pay such toll till six months after unloading, or sale and delivery.
5. The subjects of GREAT BRITAIN may bring into SPAIN the produce of the dominions of MOROCCO, and shall not pay greater duties than usual.
6. Books of rates, containing an exact account of the customs agreed on, by the commissioners from the Queen of GREAT BRITAIN and the King of SPAIN, shall be adjusted and established within a year after the signing of this treaty, and be published thro' all the Spanish dominions; nor shall the British subjects be obliged to pay greater duties than what is therein set down; and for all other goods not mentioned in those tables, the rate of 7 per cent.



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Kings of GREAT BRITAIN and SPAIN.	Ambassadors.	Treaties; years.	Where signed, and by whom.
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Queen ANNE of GREAT BRITAIN. CHARLES and PHILIP, contend- ers for the crown of SPAIN.	Mr. WALPOLE, in 1707, brought from SPAIN a treaty of commerce, probably that above mentioned. <i>Cole's</i> <i>Mem.</i> p. 472.		
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cent. shall be demanded on the credit of the instrument, declaring the charge and prices of the merchandize and goods, which shall be exhibited by the merchant or factor, confirmed by witnesses on oath. 7. All prize goods, taken by the Queen's ships of war, or privateers, shall be esteemed as goods the produce of GREAT BRITAIN. 8. The Queen of GREAT BRITAIN and the King of SPAIN shall ratify these articles within ten weeks.

To this treaty was annexed a secret article, whereby it was agreed, that a company of commerce to the INDIES should be formed, consisting of the subjects of GREAT BRITAIN and SPAIN, in the dominions of the crown of SPAIN in the INDIES. The forming of this company was reserved till his Catholick Majesty should be in possession of the crown of SPAIN: but, in case unforeseen accidents should prevent the forming such company, his Catholic Majesty obliged himself and successors to grant to the British subjects the same privileges and liberty of a free trade to the INDIES, which the Spanish subjects enjoyed, a previous security being given for the payment of the royal duties. His Catholic Majesty likewise obliged himself, that from the day of the general peace, to the day the said company of commerce should be formed, he would give licence to the British subjects to send to the INDIES annually ten ships, of 300 tons each, provided that they pay all the royal duties, and be registered in such port of SPAIN as his Catholic Majesty should appoint; and give security to return from the INDIES to the same port of SPAIN, without touching elsewhere. That his Catholic Majesty would likewise permit the said ten ships of trade to be conveyed by British ships of war, provided the said ships of war do not trade: And that he would not demand any *indulto* or donative on account of the said trade, contenting himself with the royal duties only. And the Queen of GREAT BRITAIN promised, that the said ships of war should, in going to, and returning from the INDIES, convoy the ships of his Catholic Majesty: And his Catholic Majesty engaged never to permit the subjects of FRANCE to be concerned in the said company of commerce, nor in any wise to trade to the INDIES.

After the signing of this treaty, King CHARLES was made sensible, that the concessions granted therein to the English were such as would not easily pass with his own subjects, should he ever be possessed of the SPANISH throne; and therefore it was not without reluctance, and merely in compliance with the necessity of his affairs, that he ratified the articles of it, on the 9th of January 1708, six months after



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Kings of GREAT BRITAIN and SPAIN.	Ambassadors.	Treaties; years.	Where signed, and by whom.
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Queen ANNE of GREAT BRITAIN. CHARLES and PHILIP, contend- ers for the crown of SPAIN.	Mr. CRAGGS, secretary in SPAIN in 1708. <i>Id.</i> p. 544.		
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Duke of AR- GYLE, ambassador, plenipotentiary and general in SPAIN, 1710.			
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Lord LEXING- TON arrived at MADRID, 1712, to take PHILIP's renunciation of the succession of FRANCE.			
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Convention, March 1713.	MADRID. LEXINGTON, BEDMAR.
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Affiento, 1713*.	MADRID. LEXINGTON, ESCALERA.
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General Pacifica- tion, July 1713 †.	UTRECHT. J. BRISTOL, Duke D'OSSUNA, MONTELEON.
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it was signed. The person who was entrusted to carry this treaty to LONDON having embarked at BARCELONA, on board a small vessel for GENOA, was unluckily taken by a French frigate: the express, as is usual in such cases, threw his dispatches over-board; but they were taken up by some divers, and transmitted to the Marquis de TORCY at VERSAILLES, who took care to send privately a copy of the treaty to the States General, in order to excite their jealousy of the English, who were endeavouring, by that transaction, to engross the trade to the WEST INDIES. See *Tindal's Continuation of Rapin*, Vol. 4. B. 26.

\* This contract (for *Affiento* in Spanish signifies a contract) was to commence May 1713, and end in 1743. It was a source of iniquity, and a deposit in the hands of the Spaniards for our good conduct, to seize on at pleasure.

† By this treaty King PHILIP yielded for ever to GREAT BRITAIN, GIBRALTAR and MINORCA.