

Seven Preliminary Articles on the Part of France, for effecting a General Peace; communicated to the Foreign Ministers residing here. Done at London, September 27. 1711.

Part of the Preliminary Articles to a Treaty of General Peace, Done and concluded by the Ministers of the Allies with the French Ministers at the Hague, the 28th of May 1709.

*First.*  
**T**HE most Christian King declares, That he will acknowledg the Queen of *Great Britain* in that Quality, as also the Succession of that Crown according to the present Settlement.

*Secondly.*  
 That he will freely and *BONA FIDE* consent to the taking of all just and reasonable Measures for hindering that the Crowns of *France* and *Spain* may never be united on the Head of the same Prince; *His Majesty being persuaded* that this Excess of Power would be contrary to the Good and Quiet of *Europe*.

*Thirdly.*  
 The King's Intention is, that all the Parties engag'd in the present War, without excepting any of them, may find their reasonable Satisfaction in the Treaty of Peace which shall be made: That Commerce may be re-establish'd and maintain'd for the future, to the Advantage of *Great Britain*, of *Holland*, and of the other Nations, who have been accusom'd to exercise Commerce.

*Fourthly.*  
 As the King will likewise maintain exactly the Observation of the Peace when it shall be concluded, and the Object the King proposes to himself being to secure the Frontiers of his Kingdom without disturbing in any manner whatever the neighbouring States; He promises to agree, by the Treaty which shall be made, that the *Dutch* shall be put into possession of the Fortify'd Places which shall be mention'd in the *Netherlands*, to serve hereafter for a Barrier, which may secure the Quiet of the Republick of *Holland* against any Enterprize from the part of *France*.

*Fifthly.*  
 The King consents likewise, that a secure and convenient Barrier should be form'd for the Empire, and for the House of *Austria*.

*Sixthly.*  
 Notwithstanding *Dunkirk* cost the King very great Sums, as well to acquire it, as to fortify it; and that 'tis further necessary to be at very considerable Expence for razing the Works, his Majesty is willing however to engage to cause them to be demolish'd immediately after the Conclusion of the Peace; on Condition that for the Fortifications of that Place a proper Equivalent. THAT MAY CONTENT HIM, be given him: And as *England* cannot furnish that Equivalent, the Discussion of it shall be refer'd to the Conferences to be held for the Negotiation of the Peace.

*Seventhly.*  
 When the Conferences for the Negotiations of the Peace shall be form'd, all the Pretensions of the Princes and States engag'd in the present War, shall be therein discuss'd *bona. fide and amicably*: And nothing shall be omitted to regulate and terminate them to the Satisfaction of all the Parties.

**H**IS most Christian Majesty shall acknowledg the Queen of *Great Britain*, and the Succession of the Crown in the *Protestant Line*, as settled by Acts of the Parliament of *Great Britain*.

The most Christian King shall acknowledg King *Charles* the Third, King of *Spain*, the *Indies*, *Naples* and *Sicily*, and generally of all the Territories dependant and comprehended under the name of *The Monarchy of Spain*, in what part of the World soever situate. And he shall, within the Term of two Months, withdraw the Troops and Officers he now has in *Spain*, as well as in the other Countries and Territories depending on the said Monarchy in *Europe*, and from the *Indies* as soon as possible. The Monarchy of *Spain* shall remain intire in the House of *Austria*, and no King who shall reign in *France*, nor any Prince of the House of *France*, shall ever reign in *Spain*, or acquire within the Extent of the said Monarchy, any Towns, Forts, Places, or Countries in any part of it, especially in the *Netherlands*, &c.

The most Christian King shall deliver up to the Crown of *Great Britain* what *France* possesses in the Island of *Newfoundland*, and shall grant to the States General, in relation to their Commerce, what is stipulated by the Treaty of *Ryswick*, the *Tarif* (or Book of Rates) of 1664. the Suppression of the *Tarifs* made since, the Revocation of the Edicts, Declarations, and Arrests posterior to them. And particularly and especially *France* shall never become possess'd of the *Spanish Indies*, nor send Ships thither to exercise Commerce under any pretext whatsoever.

His most Christian Majesty shall yield and make over (to the States General the Place of *Furnes*, the Fort of *Knocque*, *Menin*, with its Verge; *Ipres*, with its Castellany and Dependencies; *Bailleu*, or *Belle*; *Warneton*, *Comines*, *Werwick*, *Poperingen*, and what depends on the Places above-mention'd; *Lisle*, with its Castellany; *Conde* and *Maubuge*, with all their Dependencies; the whole in such Condition as the said Places are at present, and particularly with the Cannon, Artillery and Stores of War therein, to serve with the rest of the *Spanish Netherlands*, for the Barrier of the said States General. And his most Christian Majesty shall also deliver up all the Towns, Forts and Places which he shall have possess'd himself of in the *Spanish Netherlands* in the Condition they are now in, with the Cannon, Artillery, and Warlike Stores.

His most Christian Majesty consents to deliver up to his Imperial Majesty and the Empire, the City and Citadel of *Strasburgh*, in the Condition they are now in, with the Fort of *Kehl*, and its Dependencies and Appurtenances, situate on either side of the *Rhine*, without any Demand of Cost or Expence under what Pretext soever; the Town of *Brisac*, with its Territory; as also the Town of *Landau*. And he shall cause to be demolish'd at his own Expence, the fortify'd Places he has at present on the *Rhine*, between *Basel* and *Philipsburgh*; namely, *Hunninghen*, *New Brisac*, and *Fort Louis*, with all the Works belonging to the said Fort on each side of the *Rhine*, so that they may never be rebuilt hereafter.

His said Majesty promises to cause all the Fortifications of the Town of *Dunkirk*, its Harbour and Rysbanks, with what belongs thereto, to be raz'd at his Expence, without exception; so that one half of the said Fortifications shall be raz'd, and one half of the Harbour fill'd up within the space of two Months; and the other half of the Fortifications shall be raz'd, as well as the other half of the Harbour fill'd up in the space of two Months more, to the satisfaction of the Queen of *Great Britain*, and of the Lords the States General of the *United Provinces*: Nor shall it be permitted ever to rebuild the Fortifications, or make the Harbour navigable again, directly or indirectly.

All Kings, Princes, and States in the Alliance, and others, shall be invited to send their Ministers to the Congress. His most Christian Majesty shall acknowledg the Ninth Electorate, erected in favour of his Electoral Highness of *Hanover*. The Duke of *Savoy* shall be re-instated in the Possession of the Dutchy of *Savoy*, the County of *Nice*, and of all the other Places and Countries hereditarily belonging to him, and of which his said Majesty shall have possess'd himself by his Arms, during the Course of the present War, without any Reservation; his Majesty consenting besides that his Royal Highness shall enjoy all the Counties, Territories and Places. which have been yielded and made over to him by the Emperor and his Allies. And the King shall make over to the Duke of *Savoy* the Property and Sovereignty of the Towns of *Exilles*, *Fenestrelles*, and *Chaumont*, now possess'd by the Arms of his Royal Highness, together with the Valley of *Pragelas*; as also whatever lies on this side the *Genevre*, and other Mountains: So that from henceforward the said Mountains may serve for a Barrier and Limits between the Kingdom of *France*, and the Principality of *Piemont*. His Majesty shall likewise acknowledg the King of *Prussia* in that Quality, and promise not to disturb him in the Possession of the Principality of *Neuschatel*, and of the County of *Valengin*. The Town and Castle of *Rhynfels*, with their Dependencies, shall be possess'd by the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, till it shall be agreed otherwise: And the Dispositions and Decrees of his Imperial Majesty and the Empire, made and issued during this War, shall be maintain'd, with respect to his Electoral Highness Palatine, who shall remain in possession of the *Upper Palatinate*, the County of *Cham*, and the Rank and Dignity with which he has been invested by his Imperial Majesty. As for the Empire, the four Associated Circles, the King of *Portugal*, the King of *Prussia*, the Duke of *Savoy*, and other Allies, they shall be free to make in the said General Congress such Demands (besides what is above granted them) as they shall think convenient.

*Note.* The whole Preliminaries agreed upon at the *Hague* having been lately printed, with three Articles of the Grand Alliance, it was thought needless to reprint the same at this time: but all these Particulars are contain'd in them.

*Note.* These were the Preliminaries in the Year 1709. since which time the Confederate Army under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough* have gain'd the Battel of *Tanieres*, taken *Tournay*, *Mons*, *Doway*, *St. Venant*, *Aire*, and *Bethune*, pass'd the *French Lines*, and taken *Bouchain*.

*Note.* It is notoriously known, That the Marquis de *Torcy* and the other *French* Minister, did not so much as pretend they wanted Power from their Master to sign all the Preliminaries, except two Articles relating to the Barrier of the Empire and of *Savoy*: Nor did they ever make the least Difficulty of agreeing to the Entire Resignation of the *Spanish* Monarchy.

