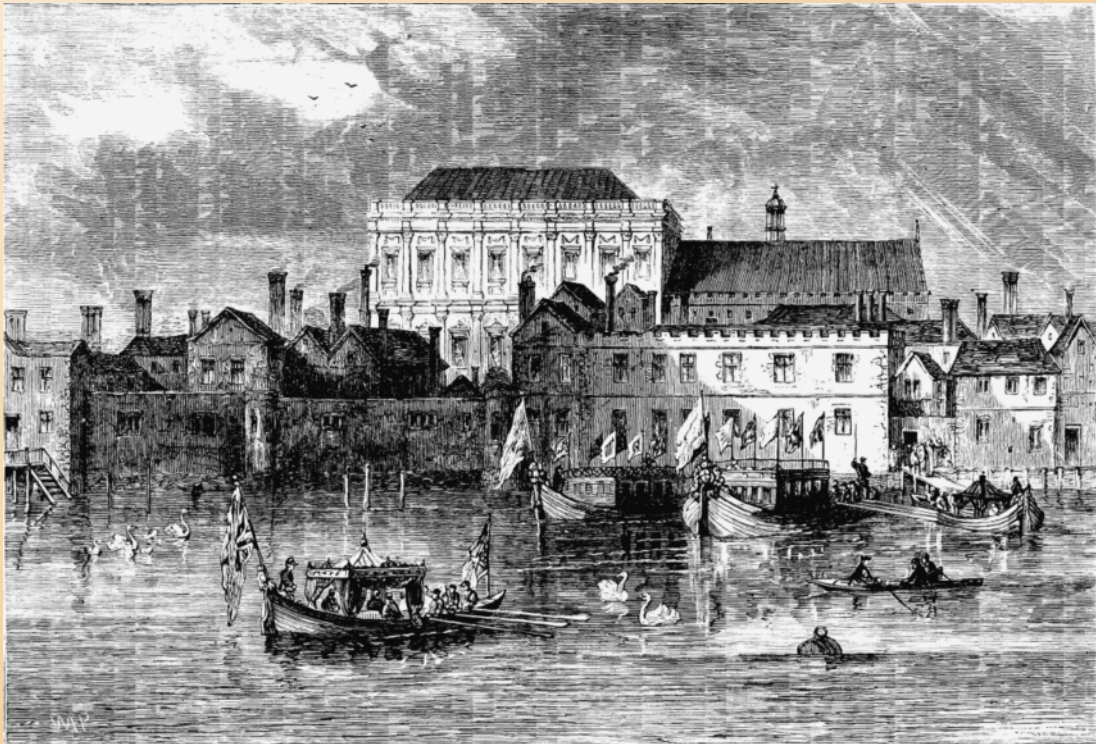


# **The Secret History of Whitehall**

**From the abdication of the late  
King James in 1688 to the year  
1696**



**By D Jones  
Gentleman**

**1717**

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**The whole consisting of secret memoirs,  
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being discoverable by any other hand.**

**PUBLISHED FROM THE ORIGINAL PAPERS**

**Together with the tragic history of the  
Stuarts, from the first rise of that family, in  
the year 1068 to the death of her late  
Majesty Queen Anne, and the extinction  
of that name.**

**Part Two**  
**By D Jones, Gentleman**

**The second addition, corrected**

**London**

**1717**

**Printed for D. Brown, A. Bell, J Darby, A. Bettsworth, J  
Pemberton, C Rivington, J Hooke, R, Cruttenden and T Cox,  
J. Battley and A. Symon**

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SECRET HISTORY  
O F  
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P A R T II.

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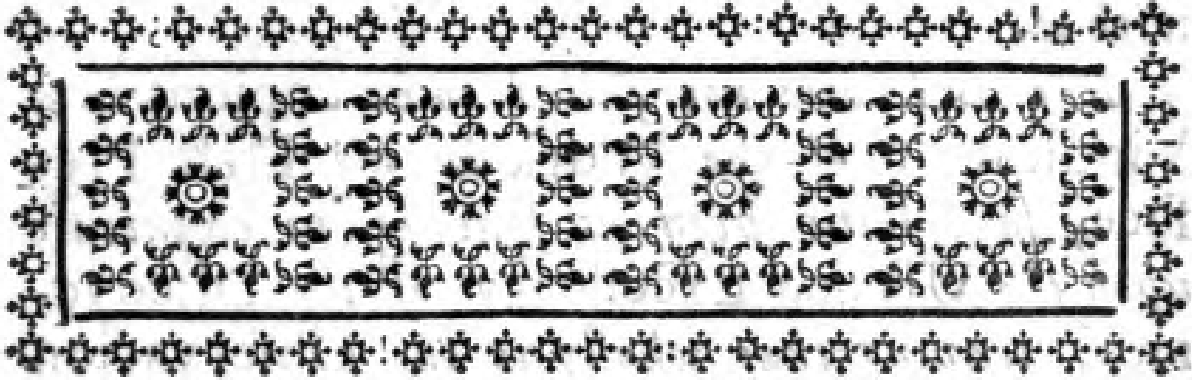
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## The Preface



AM so far from believing the world will be surprised with the publication of this second volume, since tis no more than what I have promised once and again in my preface to the first, that I'm ready to flatter myself it has been waited for with longing expectations; especially when I consider what kind and general reception has been given to the former part: though it has not, at the same time (according to the fate of things of this kind) escaped without the harsh and malevolent censures of some; as if the letters were not only not genuine, but the whole of a supposititious extracts and original.

But I have said so much upon this head already, as may in reason satisfy the scrupulous curiosity of any ingenious and disinterested person; and therefore I shall concern myself no further with it.

But I have not failed to be copious in a vindication of the work in my first preface, so I have been sparing to expatiate upon the use and excellence of the discoveries, leaving that wholly to the observation of the judicious reader, as I do it also in this; wherein I foresee you will be much better satisfied with me, than for my silence, in respect to, the nature and method of this last correspondence, where so much danger and difficulty must be apprehended to be, and which I find as difficult to gratify him with a discovery of, any further than the letters themselves intimate; especially that now the author is actually abroad again, and by his absence contributes a double reason for my excuse, and the readers disappointment.

Some may be apt to wonder these letters should be so few, and consequently bear so little proportion to those that make up the first volume. But as a manifest difference in the duration of time, as well as the different circumstances of things in Europe, while these last were written, are irreproachable arguments against any Cavils that may be suggested by reason of such contracted compass; so the same limitation is no less a proof of the candid management: since tis far enough from being impossible, but an able head might have found out matter and means, to make the second volume of these letters to swell up to the brightness of the first.

Yes, after all, I do confess, but did not think, when I published the first part, that these papers (then rude and undigested) would have been couched in so smaller room; and therefore I have found myself under a kind of necessity to make up the defect, but the subsequent Treatise: concerning which, I cannot but expect, something should be required to be said by me, in a more particular manner.

It is true, the connection here does not so exactly quadrate, nor does it look so natural, even to myself, as I could wish; but yet, the sameness of the race whereon to both the one and the other Treatise bear a relation doth sufficiently secure it from appearing with a distorted and monstrous countenance. And this latter of being an history dating its original from the firsts footsteps of

antiquity, relating to this family, even long before the assumption of the name of Stuart; and chiefly of the unfortunate accidents of their lives, as so many preludiums to their tragical ends; wherein no records of time can show a family so remarkably unhappy; not only in such of it as have swayed a sceptre, of whom only two went to their graves in peace: but in all other diversity branches of the same: this, I say, doth abundantly evince the truth of the assertion.

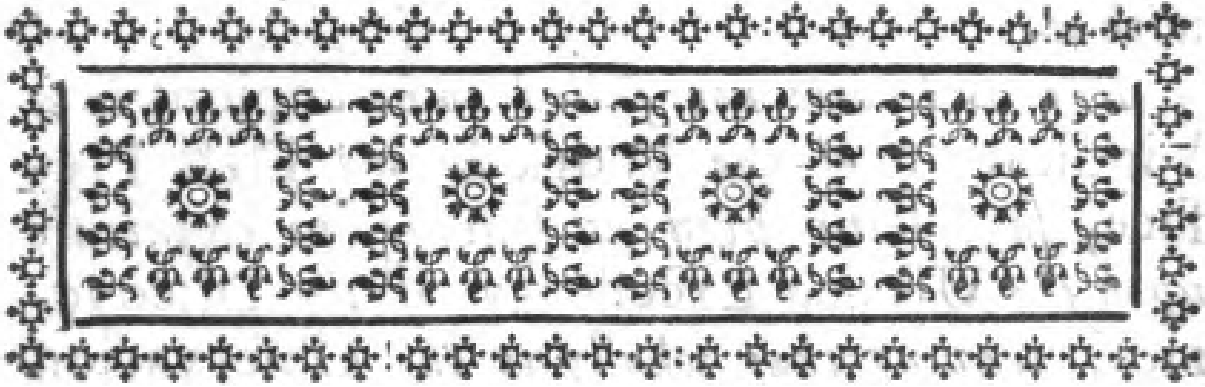
I had completely finished this Treatise before I knew of, or that any of the aforementioned papers came into my hands; and was intent upon the publication of it, when the other interrupted me therein. But if any demand of me, what were my first inducements to such an undertaking; I am free to inform them, that I had my first intimation from my ever honoured and learned friend, Roger Coke Esq., With whom, while living, I have had most intimate, and I may say daily converse, for the revolution of some years; and who, during the time of my acquaintance with him, was pleased to intrust me, and no other, with the care (and I may say, revisal too) of all his papers; and particularly, of the detection of the court and state of England during the last four reigns: and from whom I have received some uncommon hints, towards the compiling of this structure, which upon perusal, I question not but the unprejudiced reader will acknowledge as such; and whose memory, now he is dead, I shall always revere and honour.

It will be unnecessary to make a recapitulation here of the authorities cited by me, they will best appear in the work itself, where they cannot escape the reader's view, and to which I refer him. I am not un-sensible how sure I am to dislodge one party of men by this undertaking; and whose sole cry is, that the Princes here spoken of were the best, and most virtuous in their lives, and surely could not be so generally unhappy in their deaths, as here represented; but they are, for the most part, of the other side, then I shall not break my rest to please them. And since it's notoriously known they will hardly allow the present lawful and rightful possessor of the throne of Great Britain any of those virtues they so prodigiously ascribe to others, (who, many of them, we will not deny, had their good, as others had their bad qualities) either their judgements may be greatly suspected, or else all the world this witness of their gross and matchless partiality.

Profit and pleasure are the main things, (to speak of the general course of sublunary matters) that we pursue in this life; and these two are also the great props of human studies. How far the former may be met with in the compass of this Treatise, I will not take upon me to determine; but I shall only observe, that I have endeavoured to give is clear and distinct a view of that part of the history of this family, which I have taken upon me to write, as possibly I could: and so far forth as anything contained therein shall redound to the readers information or benefit, by so much proportionably shall the same be taken by me for more than a compensation of all my Labour.

As to what concerns the pleasurable part, although history in general be a study that carries as much diversion and agreeableness in it, yea and much more (if the judgement of one be allowed, who is a passionate lover of it) than any other science whatsoever; yet it must be confessed, that the very epithet of tragical bears a very harsh and ungrateful sound, and such as cannot but offend some, and more particularly the comedy admirers of this age, who are not a few, as appears by the ordinary course of the stage. Yet I have taken care so to attemper my matter, as now and then to intermix some agreeable passages therewith, yet not without all just deference to the law and truth of history; which cannot but suit their genius also.

To conclude, if any other cavils shall be raised against me; as, that I have been anywhere too satirical, or given my pen too much freedom in exposing vices, or otherwise: I shall once for all give in for answer what a great princess, and a descendant from Mary Queen of Scots, was pleased to say to a person who would have excited her to resent what Protestant author had somewhat severely written concerning the amours of that Queen; viz. that there ought to be permission to speak the truth, especially after their death; for that if history did not do justice to their good and bad qualities, we should find very few that would be virtuous.



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER I

**The author revives his correspondence with his Lordship. And intimates his resolution to continue it, as time and his circumstances would admit of; with some accounts of the fears and terrors the French papists are in of the Prince of orange, as he is called by them.**



My lord,

**W**HEN I had dispatched my last to your lordship, I did not expect a sudden opportunity, if at all, to revive my correspondence with you; the mighty change that have been wrought in England having quite stopped up the ways of my former conveyance.

By Revolving frequently with myself that it would be a matter highly grateful to your lordship, to have from time to time some secret information of the affairs of this country; I have left nothing un-essay'd, whereby I might be in a capacity to gratify your curiosity, and so have now, even beyond my own expectations, found out a way that, I hope, (though my fears are also very great) now and then may affect it, which is by — though I must also inform your lordship, that there is more than ordinary care and circumspection used now to keep all court intrigues from taking air, by frequent altering of their ciphers, and entries, and other methods.

Your lordship knows best how the face of things appears in England upon so grand the revolution, they put the best mien they can upon it here; and though there is a fair show made at court of it, yet nothing is more certain, than that the Kingdom is in a general consternation, of which surprising marks are to be seen as well at Versailles, as at Paris and the provinces.

Some have smiled here, and I doubt not of your lordship and our friends in England smiling too, when I tell you, that the French King astonished, and not knowing how to believe that the Prince and Princess of Orange have been crowned in England, and proclaimed in Scotland, has asked several times a day whether the news was true or no: so dreadful to him is that the fatal accident, and which has made him dispose of his armies into all quarters, where there can be any semblance of danger, as if he expected to be attacked every way.

But all these terrors from without makes the court to abate nothing of their vigorous persecution of the peaceable remains of the reforms within; so that upon the least suspicion of any meetings of them, they run from all the neighbouring parts to circumvent them: for there being a report

lately raised in Perigord, that religious assembly of Huguenots was held that the house of Mr Dupare, the alarm bell was immediately rung, and all the town got together, and ran to the house, but found no body in it, save a few children. But this did not hinder the neighbouring villagers to take the alarm, who ran in heaps to massacre the Huguenots and the Prince of Orange, whom they believed to be always at their heels: and such panic and terrors does the apprehension of him strike into them, that about the same time the preacher of Sarlate was forsaken by all his auditors, upon an imaginary rumour, thought to be spread abroad, that the Prince of orange was at the gates of the Regaudi.

How desirable would it be, that King William and his compatriots might strike the blow while the iron is hot? But I shall not dictate, but conclude with my hearty wishes, that this, or any other intelligence, I may transfer to your lot Lordship thereafter, may be of any advantage, through your Honour's wise conduct and management, to my native country; and so remain highly satisfied of this opportunity to testify how ready I am at all times to serve and obey you, and to subscribe myself, **My lord, your humble and most the devoted servant.**

**Paris, 14th May 1689**



## **The Secret History of Whitehall**

### **PART II**

### **LETTER II**

**Of the Dauphin's dissatisfaction with his command of the French army in Germany, and what use might be made of it by the Confederates, if dexterously managed.**

**My lord,**



do not question but your Lordship is very well acquainted with the present posture of things, in reference to the armies of this kingdom, and that particularly the Dauphin has the command again this year of the army upon the Rhine; but what is real sentiments are concerning it, your Lordship cannot be thought to know, and perhaps very few others: yet it is apparent, by the air and countenanced of this Prince, that he does not take the field with the same cheerfulness, as he did last year; and something that has lately dropped from him, and which I had communicated to me from one about him, you knew the truth of it, had something so remarkable in it, and by a wise conduct may be so made use of, as to turn to such solid advantage, that I do not know anything at present so worthy to be communicated to your Lordship: said he:—

"I am not so much concerned that the great number of enemies I have to fight with, as the difficulty I labour under how to treat them; for above all things it behoves one that is successor to a Crown, to be true to his engagements, and more especially in such a reign this is: for the first impressions the world take of him, are likely never to wear out.

Things are now brought to that pass, that I cannot rely upon the enemy's word, nor they upon mine; and I should be still in fear that they would violate their agreements

with me, supposing I would never keep faith with them any longer than I esteemed it for my conveniency.

I know it will be a fruitless thing for me to make protestations, that what happened last year in reference to the violation of the capitulation of the cities in the Palatinate, came to pass without my approbation for privity; that excuse will be imputed to folly or treachery, unless I could publicly put to death the authors of that infidelity, which the evil counsellors about my father will not permit, for fear of both the crime and the punishment should pull upon themselves."

These are generous sentiments, my lord, which if well cultivated, may perhaps prove useful to himself, and to the confederated enemies of France at this time; and I can think them no other than to remains of such as were issued into him, by the good old Duke his Governor who struck not once to tell his father upon the account of his cruelty to his Protestant subjects, that it became not a King to be a bigot.

I shall confine myself now, and always, to a bare transmission of what I shall judge worthy of your knowledge, leaving the application wholly to your lordship, unless I have other commands from you; which I do not know how to receive in my ticklish circumstances at present: but such, when known to me, I shall always obey to the utmost of my power, and as far as I find them safe and consistent with your honour: **and so I remain, My lord, your Lordship's most humble and entirely devoted servant.**

Versailles 30th of May 1689



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER III

**Of the declaration of war made by France against the Crown of Spain, and after she had endeavoured in vain to keep the Spaniards neutral.**

My lord,



**OUR** Lordship may perhaps call to mind what I formerly transmitted to you out of our minutes, concerning the efforts made by this Crown to induce the Spaniards to neutrality in the war formed by France against the Republic of Holland and her then confederates; and I am now to acquaint you, there have been the like greater efforts made to keep that same Crown from falling into the present conjunction of the allies against her, though both the attempts have failed of their desired success.

It is true, the Spaniards thought fit to temporise the latter end of the last year, and the beginning of this, till they found the revolution in England accomplished, and the government there reduced to a settled form, and then they made no bones openly to testify their aversion to France and her interest, as well as good will to the Confederates at the same time, by such acts as gave evident signs both of the one and the other: and your lordship cannot think our greatly mortified this

court is at the news they have lately received of my Lord Stafford's, King James ambassador being dismissed by the King of Spain, and that they would no longer own his character.

It has occasioned much discourse here, and people daily vend there sentiments upon it, as they are variously affected towards the parties concerned: and among other things, I cannot forbear mentioning one passage, which, though perhaps already known to your lordship, yet give me leave to please myself (since I have nothing more momentous to transmit) with a short relation of it.

It seems upon the late King's James the ascension to the throne, the Spanish ambassador, Don Ronquille, took upon him to advise him not to suffer himself to be guided by fryars and monks; the King for answer told him, that the Kings of Spain were wont to do it: the ambassador replied again, I know it, Sir, but that is our misfortune; therefore your Majesty ought to take warning by our example, and not to dash yourself against that rock.

And surely if he had taken up with this counsel, he might have been still in great security upon his throne, and his ambassador in the highest esteem in Spain. But to return: the aforementioned prevarications in the court of Spain, as they are pleased to term them here, have at length produced a declaration of war against Spain, which has been dispatched by a trumpeter to the Governor of the Spanish Netherlands, and the substance whereof is here subjoined: that they unfeignedly desire his most Christian Majesty had to observe that truce concluded in the year 1684 had caused him to take no notice of the demeanour of the Spanish ministers in the Courts of all the European Princes, where they had made it their whole business to animate the several Princes to take up arms against France:

—That his Majesty is not ignorant of the share they have had in the negotiations of the league made at Ausburg; that he is also well acquainted with what share the Governor of the Spanish Netherlands has lately had in the Prince of Orange's enterprise against the kingdom of England; but that yet not being inclinable to believe, that what was transacted by him was done by his catholic Majesty's command, his most Christian Majesty was in good hopes to have persuaded his catholic Majesty to concur with him for the effectual restoration of the lawful King of England, and the preservation of the Catholic religion against the Protestant league that was formed, or at least to have observed an exact neutrality: to which purpose he had made several proposals, that seemed to have been well received, so long as the success of the Prince of Orange continued doubtful; but that when it came to be once known at the Madrid,

that the King of England had left his dominions, than nothing was mediated upon but a war against France: that his Christian Majesty was moreover further informed that the Spanish ambassador in England paid daily visits to the Prince of Orange, and was very importunate with him to declare war against the kingdom of France; that the Governor of the Spanish low countries was raising men with the utmost diligence, and had promised the states general to join their forces in the beginning of the campaign; and laboured with the Prince of Orange to send numbers of men into Flanders.

Of all which procedures he had informed his catholic Majesty, and offered him a sincere continuation of the truce, provided he would give no succour to his Majesty's enemies. But now finding after all, that his catholic Majesty was resolved to favour the usurper of England, whose agents had received considerable sums, both at Cadiz and Madrid; his Majesty therefore, to prevent the evil intentions of his catholic Majesty, was resolved to declare war against him both by sea and land. Your lordship cannot but discern, by the whole purport of this declaration, where the shoe must pinch; and nothing is more manifest, than that the successful enterprises of the King of England stick most at the heart of this court, which may at last turn to moral convulsion; which none can be more desirous to see than, **my lord, your lordship's most humble and most obedient servant. Paris, June 10, 1689**



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER IV

**Of the Cardinal D'Este's following the Pope for money for the late King James, and his proposing a crusade for the restoration of him to his throne again.**

My lord,



**H**AVE in my last endeavoured to give your lordship the sense and resolution of this court concerning the present posture of affairs, and mighty efforts made for the support of the late King's interest (who is, as you well know, now in Ireland) both here and at Rome too, by the agency of this court: and less the differences that have been so long depending between both Courts, should any ways obstruct the court, they have at length laid the foundation of an accommodation; and the great motive to press it on, is taken from the measurable condition of the late King's affairs, and that his holiness could not but know that the main of the Catholics hopes resting in the most Christian King, for the redressing of them, those very hopes would also vanish, if his holiness still obstinately persisted to refute and accommodation with him.

The Cardinal d'Este, the late Queen's brother, is the person pitched upon to manage this negotiation, whose futher instructions are to solicit the Pope for some present supply of money for his nephew; and not only so, but to propose to the old father the publishing a crusade for the restoration of King James to his kingdoms.

But finding this did not relish well with the old dad, his eminency confined himself to a request, that, his holiness would exalt the Emperor, King of Spain, and other catholic Princes to it, and mediate an accommodation between them for the more effectual carrying on the same.

This is but thunder afar off, and will never endamage the British Isles; I heartily with you may be as secure from the intestine commotions and machinations. There is nothing more talked of here, and I have some reason to fear some measures have been concerted that this court, for the fomenting of that inquietude which has processed too many amongst you upon the change of government.

Your lordship will pardon me, since I write with the same freedom and sincerity as formally; and remain, my lord, your constant and most faithful servant.

Versailles, 17th of June 1689







## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER V

**Of the Queen of Spain's death; the formal story made in France of her being poisoned and the marriage feared between his catholic Majesty and the Infanta of Portugal.**

**My Lord,**



NOW things are come to an open rupture and hostility between the two crowns of France and Spain (some account of which I have already transmitted to your lordship) you cannot conceive how violently they vend their spite and malice against the Spanish Court; and more especially take occasion to renew publicly the discourse (which was at first scarce whispered) of the Queen of Spain is being poisoned:

In which they pretend to interest themselves very much, as she was a daughter of France; and say, that she being secretly admonished in the midst of all the troubles that befell her, to take care of herself, found out a way to dispatch a Frenchman, that was then in Spain, to her father the Duke of Orleans, and to desire him to send her some treacle by the most cunning courtier that was in the kingdom: that thereupon the Duke, who had a most tender love and affection for the Queen his daughter, being deeply concerned at the news which portended his approaching misfortune, had discovered what had happened to the King, who at the same time took care to send away what Queen desired; but that by the time the courier was arrived at the city of Burgos, he met their with another who told him, that he was carrying the news of the Queen's death to which particulars, are super-added these circumstances of sickness; that being suddenly taken with a vomiting, she should say, as formerly the deceased Madam her mother (of whose death I have, to the best of my remembrance, formerly given your Lordship some account) after she had drank the glass of succory-water to which we attributed her death, that she was poisoned; that her vomiting was attended with most violent convulsions, which being reported to the count de Rebenac Fenquires, the French ambassador then at the Spanish Court, he went to give the Queen a visit; but that when he came there, entrance into her chamber was denied him, under the pretence that it was not the custom in Spain for men to visit in even health or in sickness: that thereupon he came very importunate for entrance, urging, that he came not to see her as Queen of Spain, but as she was a daughter of France, and the King's Masters niece.

They further add, that this contest continued, and was spun out to a long time, and of pretence of knowing the Kings pleasure; and that at length, after long attendance, the door was opened to him, but yet it such a time, when the Queen was so very ill, that she could not speak one word: that she died within a short while after, one convulsion succeeded another till she gave up the ghost.

That besides all these concurring circumstances, the designs formed last year by the Council of Spain to have his Catholic Majesty divorced from her, and their application to the Pope for that purpose, under pretended allegations that the French, before they parted with her, had used all

artifices of the devil to prevent having of children; but not being able to lay convincing proof before him of the matter, they had put off that project.

These things, they say, gave no small umbrage to some clandestine practices against her life, so say nothing of the project at the same time, to get the Infanta of Portugal married to him, and thereby lay the ground plot for the uniting of Portugal once more to Spain, etc.

But, my Lord, whatever surmises they have had of such a design then, it is certain there is nothing they are more apprehensive of at this time, than such a conjunction, which must inevitably add one kingdom more to the number of the Confederates, and against them; and all engines are on work to divert the success of it. I hope the King of England and its allies are sensible of this, and will take care to countermine the enemy in time; which are the hearty wishes of, my Lord, your Lordship's to serve and command.

**Paris second of July 1689**



## **The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER VI**

**Of some secret designs hatching against the established government in  
England.**

**My Lord,**



T is not long since I gave your Lordship a hint of the apprehensions I had of some evil designs formed against the established government and I am so far from lessening the same, that I grow more and more jealous of their progress day by day: not that I'm able to name either person or place, or positive design to your Lordship; but sure I am, there is a snake in the grass, and perhaps it will appear that some of those from whom was expected most service and fidelity, will be found to acts as a counterpart.

However it very, I can assure you, that Barillion, late ambassador in England from this Crown, though he had been forced to quit the English Isle ignominiously enough, yet has found out away to leave two, if not three Frenchman of his train behind, to be sure; and I do not question but you will here more of them, unless they be secured in time: and though it does plainly appear, both by the countenance and minutes of this court, that things do not go some trim and glibly with them in England,

as in former times, when they had no more to do, then to consult those infallible oracles, the Duchess of Portsmouth and Goodman Peters: yet I do not question but it will appear, that their oracles are not quite silence there. I beg your Lordship to pardon this freedom, and to entertain a favourable opinion of the sincere intentions of, my Lord, your Honour's to serve and obey.

**Paris, June 25th 1689**



# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER VII

**A summary of the articles concluded on the French King's Part, for restoring of the late King James to his lost dominions.**

My Lord,



can't forbear taking notice of your Lordship, though I have done it once it and again already, of the great difficulties I Labour under to procure any true and certain intelligence matters transacted on our side, in reference to the affairs of England; and I can as little forbear endeavouring to communicate whatever intelligence comes into my hands, to your honour, though it be accompanied with such imminent danger, as you cannot but be a little sensible of, and which I heartily with none of my friends may ever have the black apprehensions of, how much more your Lordship whom I ever have and share our love and honour.

Wherefore the pleased to receive thereby the heads of those articles agreed and concluded on the French King's part, for the furthering the late King James in the recovery of his abdicated throne; and they are these following.

**First**, He doth solemnly promise and engage to assist and promote the late King's his dear brother in his pretensions, with men, money, and all possible force both by sea and land; and firmly resolves never to lay down his arms, and to be at peace with his enemies, till such time as his said brother shall be remounted on the English throne, and be peaceable possessor of the same.

**Secondly**, that till such time as the aforesaid article should be put in full execution, and thoroughly accomplished, he hath obliged himself to support him, the late King, and all his other dependents in his kingdom of France or elsewhere, with all suitable grandeur and dignity.

**Thirdly**, that he should with the utmost expedition and application, assist with a competent number of forces by land, and sufficient Navy by sea, towards the reducing under his obedience the hostile part of the kingdom of Ireland, and not desist until the same were entirely recovered unto him; and after that it were so reduced and subjected by their conjoint arms, the late King should be in possession of it, till such time as he shall be in full possession of the English throne, but no longer. But how to unravel the latter clause of this article, at present is beyond my skill, and so I will leave it.

**Fourthly**, he have also, over and above the proceeding engagements, promised to give him all the assistance necessary from time to time, both by sea and land, for the recovery of England and Scotland unto him, when he shall arrive in one or either of the said kingdoms in person; and in the meantime has engaged to be aiding and assisting to his party in either of the two nations, as time and occasion should serve.

My Lord, I do not question but you would be highly satisfied to have a view of the stipulations on the late King's part to his Gallican Majesty; and I hope your Lordship has entertained such an opinion of me, as to take my satisfaction can be no less that in being able to gratify your

honour's curiosity upon this head, which I shall not fail to endeavour to do, and heartily with an accomplishment of it in my next: who am, my Lord, with all due of observance, your honour's most obedient and devoted servant.

St Germaine July 31st 1689



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER VIII

### Articles stipulated on King James's part, for the giving up Ireland, etc to the French, upon his recovery of England and Scotland

My Lord,



**T**HAT Lordship has safely received my last, I have had some intimations of my friend from — —; I earnestly wish for the like success to this, and your speedy receipt of it, seeing it hath so luckily fallen out with me, that the purport of it contains what I cannot but flatter myself will redound match to your honours satisfaction: I mean, the articles stipulated on the late King's part to the French King, of which I gave no hint in my last, though I could not then as much as hope, with any tolerable confidence, of being so soon able to procure them.

**First** then, the late King have agreed, in consideration of the French King's assistances (as mentioned in my last) and as soon as he shall be restored, and fully resettled in his dominions (and not before, that he may not give any umbrage to the English) all quit all manner of claim to the title or arms of France, and take effectual care to put the same out of the Royal English escutcheon.

**Secondly**, that he shall entirely quit and resign up the sovereignty of the narrow seas to the French, and that to that purpose he shall give orders to his ships of war, etc to strike to the French flags.

**Thirdly**, that he shall be obliged to assist the French King with thirty capital Ships of war, and twenty thousand land men in any war, when he shall have occasion for them; and this at his own proper cost and charges.

**Fourthly**, that he shall make or enter into no alliance against France, nor into any other without the French King's privity and consent; but unfeignedly observed a perpetual league both offensive and defensive with the Crown of France.

**Fifthly**, that he shall permit unto to the French King, at all times and occasions, the free use of all his ports for the retreat of his ships, and be obliged to furnish him then and there with proper

conveniencies, and able workmen to repair is in endamaged ships, or to build new ones whensoever he shall require it.

**Sixthly**, that he shall admit into his standing forces, whose number and strength shall from time to time be limited and regulated by him in concert with the French King, a constant body of twenty thousand French, and ten thousand Catholic Switzers, or more or less of them in proportion to the troops of his own subjects: and this after his full resettlement on the throne: and not only so, but shall deliver up Dover Castle, Plymouth and Portsmouth to be garrisoned by French soldiers, as cautionary towns for the security of performance.

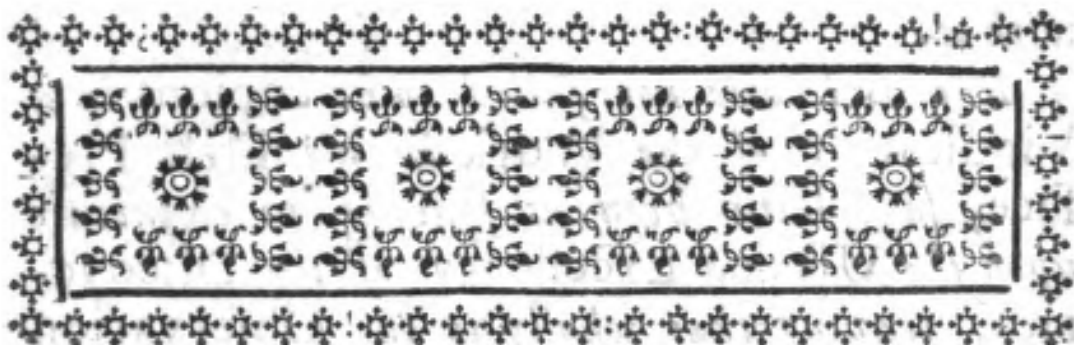
**Seventhly**, that in regard of the situation of the Irish ports, and their conveniency for the French fleets, as also in consideration of the agreements of the Irish with the people of France in religion; he shall after his fall restoration to the English and Scotch kingdoms, be obliged to give Ireland to the French King, in full compensation of all the monies he has already expended, or shall expend further in his quarrel, and for vindicating of his rights to his dominions. But that however, because of the situation of the islands of Sicily and Sardinia in the Mediterranean for the English navigation and trade into the Levant, the sly Monsieur hath obliged himself to conquer those kingdoms for the late King, as its own expense, and with his own expense, and to give them up entirely to him in lieu of his kingdom of Ireland.

**Eighthly**, that still towards the furthering a stricter friendship and alliance between the two nations of England and France, and for perpetuating a mutual amity and sincere correspondence, if in case by the violent or natural death, either of King William, or Prince George of Denmark, or both of them, one or both of the Princes Royal shall become Widows, and that their persons can be seized; that then they shall be conveyed with all expedition and secrecy into France, and be put into the French King's power, and shall there be marriage *nolens volens* to such Prince all Princes as he shall appoint or think fit for them.

Nightly, that the eldest all surviving issue of such marriage shall succeed to the Crown of Ireland and Scotland; and England no need to remain to the pretended Prince of Wales, with the American plantations.

Thus, my Lord, I have now given you the stipulations so much desired by you; I will leave your Lordship to descant upon the make such use of them, as your known wisdom and ability shall direct for the good of the King and country; and shall reserve some further things, which I cannot conveniently write now, and which relate to this subject, to another opportunity: and in the meantime, **I am, and shall ever remain, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble and faithful servant.**

**Paris August 19, 1689**





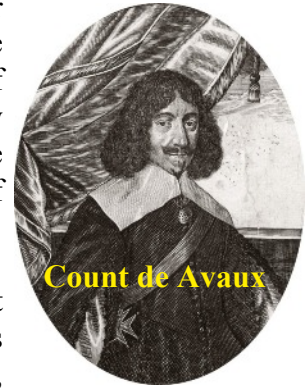
## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER IX

**Some reflections upon King James's league with the French King; with an account of some further terms agreed upon between them, in relation to the English Protestants in Ireland.**

My Lord,



**HIS** court is mighty uppish about the success of the late King James, or I my Lord truly say their own, in Ireland; which if totally reduced by their conjoint arms, is to be one day of their own, as appears by the seventh article stipulated between the two kings, and of which I gave your Lordship an account in my last: and 'tis not doubted that the Count de Avaux hath already taken livery and seisen of it privately in his Majesty's name.



And that it is really so, I'm not only assured of by the said articles, but the same is more than probable, by the great care and exactness that is had that Brest, and other ports of the ocean, to keep an account of all, the clothes, arms, ammunition and provisions that are shipped off for Ireland; and which, according to some of the accounts stated and transmitted hither (somewhat whereof I have had the opportunity to have a slight view of) are set down at such extravagant rates, as if they designed in a short time not only to balance the accounts with him for Ireland, but to make him considerably their debtor over and above for the carrying on another game; but they may chance to reckon without there host in this, as well as all the rest; I pray God keep King William and his Royal consort, and may she and her Royal sister be never so happy as to fall into the French power, as your Lordship sees has again been concerned by the ninth and last article: if ever it should so happen, which God of his mercy avert, and that any such march or marchers shall come to pass, and issue come therefore, my friend hath secretly whispered me, that then the pretended Prince of Wales is not likely to be longed lived.

But I still trust all these towering hopes of our enemies will evaporate into smoke, and that their designs shall have as little as effect upon the lives and fortunes of our true princes, as their contrivances against the religion and property of their subjects shall become abortive and fruitless; and whom they have agreed upon to treat in the following manner.

**First,** That all possessors of lands in Ireland, that are of the Protestant religion, and will not turn papists, shall be bound to sell their estates at a set price to the French King, who shall let them out to the old Irish proprietors at certain quit-rents and services, that shall in a reasonable time reimburse him of the purchase money.

**Secondly,** But still to show the good nature and lenity, it is agreed that all Protestants that will, shall have leave to freely to depart with their effects whatsoever they please.

**And Lastly,** That such as will stay, shall have liberty of conscience granted them for the space of twenty years, till the country shall be fully stocked with French Catholics and other papists.

I am well satisfied your Lordship will not think these machinations a matter of nothing, but as a good patriot, which you have shewed your self to be in the most arbitrary times, will stir up yourself and honest countrymen to obviate them seasonably, which I as heartily with as I have little reason to doubt it; who am, my Lord, your faithful and most obedient servant.

**Paris 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1689**



## **The Secret History of Whitehall**

### **PART II**

### **LETTER X**

**Of King Jame's Army in Ireland, and Duke Schomberg's with Cardinal Bovillon's mation, for a contribution, for the support of the former.**

My Lord,

The raising of the Siege of London-derry, and the landing of the English army without interruption in Ireland, under Duke Schomberg, with other successes and advantages, are so far from discouraging this court in their hopes of a speedy conquest of that kingdom; that have already in the cabinet vaunted it to be as good as their own, and perhaps they need not stay for another campaign to reestablish the late king upon the throne of England and put themselves in an entire possession of the other kingdom, according to the full extent and meaning of the stipulated articles, which I have formerly transmitted to your Lordship.

But because money here is very hard to come by, in such a proportion to answer those vast expenses they are at, to carry on the war upon the continent, which must be got at ant rate, they are resolved to carry on the Irish affairs with two court projects, which are of that stamp, that for all their boasting makes wise men have but a poor opinion of the event.

For it cannot be thought that any great matters should be done at Rome for the support of the late King; though by this Courts contrivance and instigation, the Cardinal de Bevilion, in a congregation of Cardinals lately held there, propounded that they should lay a voluntary contribution upon themselves for his supply, and that to set a good and laudable example unto others, he offered a considerable sum: but by all that I could learn hitherto, the motion was not much relished, and it is very likely the congregation smoke the design, that the Cardinal thought that the best way to find the French King his master Monay, who undoubtedly cannot but need it; and that he that supplies the one King, supplies the other.

And if the first carries so little probability of success with it, I'm sure your Lordship will say the other has much less; and that to make copper to pass for silver coin, forebodes a general dissatisfaction in the inhabitants of that country, where that innovation is introduced, and cannot be thought to make thessoldiery over meddlesome and daring.

It is almost past belief how much this teaguish invention (for it will by no means be allowed to be the production of the French refined policy) is ridiculed in every corner: but I shall not presume

to detain your Lordship any longer, and therefore conclude: subscribing myself, **my Lord, your Lordship's most humble and most devoted servant.**

**Paris, December 12, 1689**



## **The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XI**

**of the resolutions taken in France to support King James in Ireland, and to reinforce his army with a good body French troops, et cetera**



My Lord,

**HATEVER** secret and underhand machinations there may be on foot against the established government in England or Scotland, I cannot perceive this court have any great share therein, otherwise than as the emissaries of it in Ireland are assistant to the late King to promote and execute his designs; and therefore I'm in no capacity at present, of giving your Lordship any the least intimation of such projections; but this in general your honour may be fully assured of, that there will be no efforts wanting on the part of this Crown, both by sea and land, this spring to further him in his pretensions; there being all diligence and expedition used to get both the convoy and forces ready: which both the one and the other, will be found to be no more considerable than perhaps you are aware of in England.

XXXXX

If there be any apprehensions of such a design their, my Lord, as it becomes is Majesty to take all effectual care to hinder the fervour progress of the French arms in Ireland; there is not a whit less care to be used that the contagion do not spread further in Scotland, lest after all the pretences, these forces and squadrons be designed for the latter, and land there when least expected.

However they seem to demur at present upon the matter, and that out of design as it is whispered, to do first fully informed, in what forwardness the Prince of orange (as they call him) is in preparations, and how formidable his forces like to be.

I am heartily sorry my Lord, that I cannot penetrate more to the quick into the design of this Court; but yet I hope what I have here suggested of the fruit of my own observation and converse, may be of some use to my country, and be a means to propagate your honour's good opinion of my ready willingness at all times, and to the utmost of my power, to serve both it and you; who am, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble and most devoted servants.

**Versailles Feb. 5, 1690**







## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XII

**Of count De Lauzun's going for Ireland, and of some secret designs of the French King against someplace in the Netherlands.**



**My Lord,**

What I intimated to your Lordship in my last of the resolutions of this court to support the late King's interest in Ireland, doth now daily appear more and more visible by the many men of war, that with utmost diligence are fitted up, and the troops that daily defile towards breast, etc.

As to the certain number either of the one or the other, there can be nothing gathered from common fame; and therefore having pried as narrowly as I could into the Cabinet, by the means of — — — I am assured the Landsman will amount at least to the number of seven thousand, and the convoy will hardly be less than forty men of war; which according to the computation may be ready to sail in a fortnight's time.

But as there is nothing omitted here for keeping up an interest in Ireland, and so to divert the King of England's army that way, there is no less care taken to alarm the Confederates on flounders side; and they talk as if the King had and I upon Charleroy for some other of the frontier towns.

I could with liege were well looked to: for however it is given out that the count de Montal has promised the King to make him master of Charleroy in twelve days time, with an army of ten thousand strong, provided he can hinder the Confederates from relieving it; yet the Kings journey, which is whispered will be very sudden and speedy to Champaign, gives so small umbrage so the other, which upon the whole is of great concern to the Confederates.

I am also well assured, the guards of the body have or will shortly have orders to march to the last mentioned place, near which are great number of troops posted which can draw together in a very short time; which with my humble duty to your Lordship, is all I have at this time to communicate; who am, my Lord, your honour's to serve and command.

**Paris February 14, 1690**





# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XIII

**Of the death of matter the Dauphiness, and an account of the  
deportment of the French court thereupon.**



My Lord,

**W**HAT I write to your Lordship in my last letter concerning some design upon liege or Charleroy, doth by the sequel now appear to have miscarried; and I'm desirous to attribute the same to the conduct and watchfulness of the Confederates.

And though the King after his return Versailles has publicly declared he will not take the field this summer, which is interpreted by many to be a tacit confession of the disappointments of his designs; yet your Lordship may be satisfied from me, that no diligence is omitted to get ready another convoy and reinforcement (besides that mentioned in my last, which convoy is not yet returned) for Ireland.

And so intent is this court upon business and diversion, that the death of the Dauphiness hath not discontinued the latter, and less necessary of them, for above the space of two days; which has afforded cause of much discourse and censure already thereupon.

I shall not trouble your Lordship with any long narration of conjectures and opinions, but content myself to inform you, as the observation of a person that is my friend, who has for many years been very critical and exact to pry into the court conduct, and has not had the slightest opportunity so to do; that the Dauphiness at first had been so well received by the King, that some malignant spirits made it their public discourse; but that afterwards meeting with a colder sentiment, when they saw it is impossible to engage the Duke of Bavaria her brother in the interest of the Crown of France, the Princess herself became so sensible of the change, that she grew sad and melancholy upon it, till now at length death itself has put a final period her grief, as I am forced to do this letter through a pressing occasion; who am, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble and most devoted servant.

Paris April 28, 1690





## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XIV

**An exact account of the number and strength of the French fleet in 1690  
with some intimations of a conspiracy called against the English government  
at the same time.**

My Lord,



CANNOT but express my great sorrow to find that many things that relate to the English affairs, and which should be managed in the Cabinet, and only known by the execution of them, are so common in most man's mouths on this side.

xxxxxx

There must be false friends somewhere, and who knows but they are the very men, who would possess the government that the enemy is not so formidable, as is given out? But I cannot believe your Lordship to be among the number of those incredulous ones; though I am confident you find it a hard task convince those who should concern themselves, of their imminent danger.

This court seems long since fully satisfied of the Kings intention to go for Ireland, and that much of his time and thoughts have been taken up for the work that lies before him there; therefore they are more busy here than ever in projecting methods and carrying on designs to alarm England's in his absence.

I heartily wish your out works may be firm and strong, they are likely to be attacked by a formidable power from without; and I do not question but there are attempts formed within to second the same, its being in a manner a common discourse here.

And this I can firmly assure your Lordship of, that several Englishmen who were some time ago about the Court and this city, are all of a sudden disappeared, but have since rendezvoused at Brest with a full design to embark on board the fleet which, whatever men may flatter themselves in England with, is very formidable, and very near ready to put out to sea, having its full complement of mariners, with an additional number of land-men, who are not sent thither without some considerable design in view.

I am confident that some men in England would laugh me to scorn should I tell them, that the French fleet is composed of fourscore and two great men of war, forty frigates, thirty fire-ships, and fifteen galleys; but your Lordship, I hope, will have a better opinion of my sincerity, than to think would any ways impose upon you.

That this formidable fleet is designed for the English coast, is not doubted; but as to any particular management, all that ever I could learn, is, that an attempt will perhaps be made during the King's being in Ireland to raise a mutiny, and that in the interim, King James is to leave the command of his army to Lauzun and Tyrconnel, and to hasten with all speed into England: to favour which, part of the French fleet is to block up the River of Thames another part, in conjunction with the galleys, are to land the men on board somewhere in the west, and such spare arms as they have

with them, which is thought to be a great number: and when this is done, they are to set sail for the Irish coast to hinder King WILLIAM and his forces from returning.

Now, my Lord, I confess I do not think all these things practicable; but there must be something more than ordinary in the wind, and you cannot be too cautious. There are various other discourses that pass up and down continually concerning this grand expedition, which I shall not trouble your Lordship with, as being mere conjectures; and therefore I conclude only with subscribing my self; as I am un-feignedly, and so shall remain, **My Lord, Your Lordship's most humble, Faithful and Obedient Servant.**

Paris, June 2 1690.



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XV

**Of the late King James's Arrival in France. out of Ireland, and of an uncertain report raised of King William's death, occasioning much ridiculous mirth and bonfires at Paris, &c.**

My Lord,



**T**HAT the Arms of this Country have lately prevailed in two great conflicts, the one by Sea, and the other by land, is sufficiently known here by the public rejoicings that have been made for both in all parts of the Kingdom; and I cannot sufficiently express to your Lordship, the agony I have been under, especially when I heard of the defeat by Sea: but the arrival of the late King some days ago at St. Germain's bath cheared up my drooping spirits wonderfully again.

It's universally agreed-here, that King William has had the better of him, though the defeat is minced very much at Court. Now the Politicians foreseeing that it would be a matter of much enquiry, and seem no less than a paradox among the people, that he should quit Ireland so soon, where his pretence must have been absolutely necessary for the heartening of his soiled party, they have given a reason for his retirement so ridiculous, that let them believe it who will, I think I shall not yet, and I am sure your Lordship will not; and that is, that Monsieur Lauzun had in a manner constrained him to withdraw into France, because his extraordinary courage caused him to expose himself like a common soldier, even to so much danger, that it had like to have cost him his life.

And if the aforesaid reason was so very ridiculous, I am sure your Lordship will not think the rejoicings made in this city, upon the groundless report of a lackey of the King's who got out of Ireland a few days after his master, to be less so: for upon his arrival he was pleased to acquaint the Court, that Duke Schonberg was not only killed, but King William dead also; which good news, as they call it, was of that importance, that it was glibly swallowed down, and the proof thereof never enquired into; and news happening about midnight to come into the city, the com-

-misaries immediately ran up and down the Streets, knocking up the people, and crying out to them, rise, rise, make bonfires; so that in about an hour's time; all Paris was in a blaze, and nothing to be heard there; but hautboys, drums and trumpets.

Not content with this, the rabble made the effigies of King William and Queen Mary, dragged them through the dirt and mire, and at last threw them into the flames; the Bells were rung in several parishes, the great guns roared from the Bastille; and in short, for completing the farce, nothing was omitted, which was usually done upon the most solemn occasions: neither was this rejoicing confined to the narrow bounds of one day, but lasted several; neither could the public news from Holland mid other parts, that expressly imported the contrary, make them abate one jot of their vain credulity; nay; the questioning the truth of it was almost a crime unpardonable.

And because nothing should be omitted to enforce the belief of it upon all that seemed in the least dubious, the Opinions of the learned physicians, who, I mud tell your Lordship, did not want practice upon this occasion, were hotly urged for it, and who for the most part mercenarily agree to resolve their patients questions in the affirmative, viz. That the wound of a-cannon-bullet was mortal; from whence it was inferred as a natural consequence, that because King William had received such a wound, he must of necessity be dead of it.

Nothing could be more vain and frivolous than to tell them of the number of people that have had their legs and their arms shot off by a cannon bullet, and yet have lived in a good state of health for a long time after: for to this it was readily answered, that all that was alleged upon that head, was formerly true enough, but that now Chirurgery was quite another thing and from that time forward, whoever was but touched with a Cannon-Bullet, though the skin were. only a little grazed, was condemned to die.

Strange is the effect of prejudice, my Lord, and how easily do men believe what they would have to be so? But I shall not detain your Lordship any longer with so ridiculous a narration, though I question not your kind acceptance of it from, **my Lord, your Honour's devoted and most faithful servant.**

Paris, Aug. 10. 1690.

## POSTSCRIPT



UST now there is a report spread up and down, that the late King is to go forthwith on board the French fleet, and to endeavour to land in England, where they are confident to find a very considerable parry that will declare for his Interest; but whether there be any such design in reality, I cannot yet penetrate into.

My Lord,  
I am, &c.





## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XVI

**The French Court mightily concerted at the proceedings of the Duke of Savoy; and his declaring for the Confederates; yet try one stratagem more to bring him to their Side.**

My Lord,



**D**O not find, notwithstanding whatever I subjoined in my last to your Lordship of a descent or some such thing upon England, that the same is any more talked of; but generally concluded to be just now impracticable; neither do the affairs of Britain seemingly half so much perplex this court as those of Savoy at this juncture.

I do not doubt but your Lordship may have heard of many attempts made by them to keep the duke from falling in with the interests of the Confederates, and especially that of the King of England; but the last and least effort of all is what but few know, and an account thereof; I believe, cannot but be pleasing to your Lordship, now I have nothing more material to inform you of.

Monsieur de Croiffi, Grand Minister of State in this Country for foreign affairs, finding by his secret intelligence that the Duke of Savoy had declared for the Confederates, hastened to give the King an account of it; whereupon two of the Duke's Ministers were somewhat confined, but after a little consultation upon the matter, the King thought it advisable to give his subtle Minister orders to confer with the said ambassadors once more, yet so to order it, that it might not look like a formal conference, or a thing concerted before hand.

Croiffi managed his matters so well, that he met them one day in the street, when he told them, that he wondered he never could see them, that Madam de Greiffi had thought they would have come and drank a dish of coffee with he; to which purpose, he would invite them to his house at such an hour.

The ministers, to be complaisant, and being not accustomed to deny, ladies such civilities, willingly accepted his offers, and promised to wait upon the lady at the hour appointed; which they did accordingly and the Venetian Ambassador, who had the word given him, met there also, but made as if it had been by mere accident.

After they had discoursed of several things to and fro by the by, the Venetian Minister very dexterously turned the conversation into the Bartel of Fleuri, and the engagement at sea against the English and Dutch fleets and so took occasion to aggravate, to the utmost of his eloquence, the advantages which his most Christian Majesty had reaped thereby, and to lessen at the same time as much as he could the power of the confederates.

From thence passing forward to the affairs of Italy, he laboured to shew how difficult a task it was for the Spaniard to resist the Arms of the most Christian King, and laid the chief stress of his arguments upon the pressing desire which both the Pope and the Venetians had to prevent the fire of war from flaming over the Alps, and so take hold of all Italy.

To all this decoying discourse, Monsieur de Croiffi said no more, but only so much as he judged necessary to shew the Venetian Ambassador spoke nothing but what was true, for fear lest the Savoyards might have occasion to discover the concertship between them, and that the Venetian said nothing, but what the Monsieur put into his. Mouth.

However, it hems, the Savoyards were not so stupid, but that. they apprehended quickly a good part of the truth; and therefore being unwilling to engage themselves in long disputes to no purpose, they thought it sufficient, to answer once for all, that the Duke their master had made choice of his side, and that no confederation whatsoever could oblige him to fail in his promises to his imperial Majesty, the King of Spain, and the rest of the Confederates.

And if the court are so highly perplexed for the ill success they have had. with the Duke and his Ministers, the common vogue is, they are not a whit less at Monsieur Tourville's conduct after his sea-victory, that he has made no more improvement of it. But I can say nothing positively upon this head, and therefore shall only subscribe my self, My Lord, Your Lordship's most humble and Faithful Servant.

Paris, Sept. I, 1690. N.S



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XVII

**Of close designs hatched in France; of Monsieur de Tourville, and the rumour of his being disgraced for his conduct; and of the reports concerning the Dauphin's marrying again.**

My Lord,



**E**VER were frequenter consults held than at this time here, both as to the sea and land-affairs; and the King's time is so taken up continually with the one or the other of them, that he has of late neglected his ordinary recreations and divertisements.

I am confident there is a grand design formed against England, and I have had no obscure intimation of it, though I cannot possibly penetrate into any one distinct particular; I heartily wish there may be as much precaution used on your side to ward off the blow.

But while matters are thus secretly agitated in the Cabinet, the noise of Monsieur Tourville's disgrace is with great industry bandied about both in city and country, and nothing omitted to let the Confederates also come to the knowledge of it, which perhaps may carry as great mystery in the womb of it as the rest: some attribute it to one thing, some to another, many slick not to say it arises from his holding some sort of correspondence with the enemy, others that some latent malingerer of his advancement has done him ill offices at court.

I heartily wish, for the Confederates sake, France had occasion to shift her admirals often; but believe me, my Lord, these are mere illusions and amusements, and the French King knows his interests better than to lay aside, at such a juncture as this, the most understanding sea-officer he

has in his Kingdom, and, you will find he will command a more formidable fleet next summer than ever yet he has done.

It's whispered also, as if the Swede had been won to the French Interest, and that besides the diversion he will give to the Confederates in Pomerania, he will send a squadron of ships to join those of this crown early in the year; which the Confederates ought to be as sedulous to prevent, as they are to watch the motions of the Grand Duke of Tuscany to whom, it's commonly reported, there have been proposals made of a match between the Dauphin and the Princes of Tuscany, in hopes by means of that alliance to oblige him, as being the most potent Prince of Italy, to declare for the crown of France, or at least to persuade the Duke of Savoy to an accommodation.

But yet, my Lord, if my intelligence fail not, they have much more reason to fear such a match struck up with the Infanta of Portugal, as giving a fair prospect to far greater future advantages, than any solid present ones that might reasonably be expected from that other alliance with the grand Duke; more especially since the Dauphin will have, in her right, not only a particular pretension to the Crown of the King her father, but also a very plausible one to the Kingdom of Spain, and so an advantage may be made of both at the same time.

I wish the Spaniards were as jealous of this match, as they are of their wives; then there might be some hopes of frustrating the same. Your Lordship knows how far the knowledge of these things may be useful to the present constitution, and so I refer them entirely to your consideration and management ; who am, My Lord, Your most Humble and most devoted servant.

Versailles, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 1690.

#### POSTSCRIPT



**HIS** Letter I have been forced to keep by me for some days, for want, etc. but it gives me the opportunity to acquaint you, there is advice that the Infanta of Portugal is dead, which quite puts an end to the negotiation above mentioned and may ease the confederates of their cares to obviate it: but the malignity of this Court will not suffer some of them, and particularly the House of Austria, to go un-traduced; when it is already given out aloud, that the life of that Princess was cut short to secure the crown to the successors devoted to the house of Austria. I am, etc.







# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XVIII

#### Reports in France of a design formed in Spain, to give up the Netherlands to some foreign prince, &c.

My Lord,



**HIS** Court is not a little alarmed, or at least seem to be so, at the late advices from Spain, of some proposals made there in the Council of State, that seeing the defence of the Spanish Netherlands costs much more than the revenue thereof amounts to, they should be surrendered over to some prince or other, who would undertake their defence, doing only homage to the King of Spain.

It's not unknown to your Lordship how about eight years ago they had some thoughts of surrendering them to the Duke of Bavaria and nothing more certain, than that this Court broke then the neck of that design: but though the Duke's apprehensions at that time of engaging himself by such a procedure in a war with France, was the reason the business went no further, yet that can be no obstacle, now he is actually engaged the Confederacy against France.

But how disgustful soever this Proposal is to the ministers here, that other motion in the same Council, to leave those provinces to their own management, with permission to change themselves into a republic, and provide for their own safety as they should think most expedient, is much more dreaded by them; as foreseeing such a form of government might, according to the example of the Swiss Cantons, though of different principles in religion, so league themselves with the States General, as for ever after to prove a wall of brass against all the attempts of this Crown.

But while these and other matters are slowly deliberated, it is well if some part of these provinces be not filched away by the arms, of France. In the mean time, I can assure your Lordship there are vast preparations made, and some very grand enterprise at hand on that side, and some considerable. pass may be seized ; without the Confederates are as forward and vigilant to defend, as the French Arms are to attack that, which am sure is not believed at this juncture.

I am as heartily sorry I cannot be more particular in my information, as I am always forward to transmit all that think any ways worthy to be known, and .desirous to approve my self; My Lord, Your Lordship's most Humble and most Obedient Servant.

Versailles Feb. 7, 1691.





## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XIX

**Of the City of Mons besieged by the arms of France, and the reason why  
King James was not there.**



**My Lord,**

**OUR** Lordship cannot now but see the effects of part of what I have writ to you in my last; the close consultations and vast preparations that were made, were. not for nothing.

I am not well informed, I confess, of what preparations the Confederates have made to obviate the enterprize in hand, but I can assure your Lordship they have a very poor opinion of them here, and they at little question the speedy reducing of Mons under, the obedience of the Crown of France, as they do the safe return of their King laden with trophies for the taking of it.

But many People are not a little surprised to. see, while the King and all the princes of the blood expose themselves to the hazards and toils of war, that the late King, whom some have so much cried up for a lover of military glory, has no share therein: but his admirers have found out, as they think, a very plausible pretence for his absence, because it is not known in what quality he would have appeared in the field.

But the truth is, my Lord, they have no great opinion of his valour and conduct, and he has succeeded so very ill in his own concerns and undertakings, that they are very much afraid his pretence should infuse some malignant insolence into the French King's designs. And whatever veneration those now in England have for his interest, who are from thence denominated according to his name, there is hardly a day passes here, wherein some satirical piece or other does not appear against him, far enough from sparing personal reflections.

Though this will make the Confederates in general but small amends for the loss of Mons; however, I could not but once take notice of it to your Lordship, desiring you to believe how ready I am, to she utmost of any Intelligence, **My Lord, to serve and obey you.**

**Paris, April, 1691.**





# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XX

**Of the raising of the Siege of Coni, and of the death of that Grand Minister of State to the French king, the Marquis of Louvois; and also of Monsieur Barillon's, once the French King's Ambassador in England.**

My Lord,



**T**HE general affairs of the war are so public, that your Lordship cannot but come to the knowledge of such transactions as fall out from time to time, as soon as any other in the Kingdom; and they are such at this juncture as sufficiently perplex this Court, especially daily so far as they regard Italy and Savoy in particular, from whence they have just received the bad news of the raising the siege of Coni, which is yet but whispered amongst them; but your Lordship may so far rely upon my intelligence in this particular, as confidently to report it in England: of which news; I question not your giving hereby

the first intelligence.

But rho this ill success is so much the more mortifying to this Court, in that they fully reckoned upon the taking of the place, seeing all others that had hitherto been besieged by their arms on that side, have made little or no resistance, and that they own themselves they have lost before it eighteen hundred of the best of their men; yet another accident has, my Lord, this very, day happened here, which at present seems more surprising, and a greater subject of discourse than the other; and that is the death of our Grand Minister of State, the Marquiss de Louvois.

Your Lordship knows what relation I have stood to him in, and what word I sent you once by Major H---, if there was a possibility of his seeing you, of my then circumstances upon the same foot. things being still much the same, I shall not further trouble you with a vain repetition of what I am now well assured the said Major has reported to your Honour; but observe, that the Marquiss having dined with the Princess d'Espenoy and Madam de Soubize, he found himself presently after ill in the King's Chamber, from whence he retired into his own to be let blood: but not finding any ease by bleeding in one arm, and being extremely oppressed in his spirits, nothing would content him but he must: needs be let blood in the other, and thereupon died at the same time.

These, my. Lord, are the naked circumstances of this great man's departure; and you may rely upon it, though I do not question but many may be apt to ascribe his death to some extraordinary and violent cause, since I have even already heard a whisper of it in a corner: but whatever reflections the world may make upon the causes of his death, I foresee there will be no less Animadversions upon the train of consequences that may attend it.

Perhaps many of the Confederates may be apt to believe, that the death of Monsieur de Louvois may produce such an alteration of affairs here, as may not a little contribute to the advantages of theirs; since much of the happy success, that has hitherto attended the King's Designs, will be ascribed to the address, cunning and policy of this minister, and that the French Lilies will wither in another's hands.

I do very well know that such suggestions carry a great appearance of truth in them; but if I may freely deliver my opinion to your Lordship, from my own observation and experience, I cannot but declare myself contrary to the aforesaid sentiments, which, if any ways relied on, will be found to prove but broken reeds: for believe me, my Lord, the French King has had a greater flare in the public transactions of his Kingdom, than any of his Ministers for all the time I have known France ; and no one understands his affairs and interests as well as himself : to say nothing of the assistance of so many politick persons, and men of great abilities he has constantly about his person, and who serve him with more than ordinary zeal and affection; which will sufficiently compensate for the loss of one single Minster.

Your Honour cannot but be sensible why I observe that at the present juncture, such an airy advantage as this is like to prove, can bring no solid benefit to my country, but a real detriment will infallibly succeed such a dependence upon it. But the death of Monsieur Barillon, which happened a few hours before the other, and who knew England better than any other Frenchman, may, I trust, conduce more to the tranquillity of the Kingdom within; which none more passionately desires to hear of, than, My Lord, Your ever obliged and most Faithful Servant.

Versailles, July 16, 1691



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XXI

**Of Monsieur Pompone's being made Minister of State; and of some particulars rebating to a peace, said to be offered by France to the Confederates.**



My Lord,

**H**AT I observed to your Lordship in my last, how vain the hopes of the Confederates were like to prove, of any good advantage to their affairs by the death of Monsieur de Louvois, appears here daily more and more by divers instances that might be given; but I shall only confine my self to inform your Honour, that the advancement of Monsieur Pompone to be prime Minister of State is a clear demonstration of the truth.

I have advanced, it is of the King's great skill and judgment: also though indeed it must be owned, that this new favourite enters upon his Ministry in a ticklish juncture of time, yet for my own part, I am fully satisfied things are not so bad with France as the world would believe them to be, and at the following proposals of peace intended to be, or as some say, already offered to the Confederates, would insinuate: of which I communicate to your Lordship a copy, as I have received them from a Friend with some difficulty.

**First:** That the most Christian King will acknowledge King William for lawful and rightful King of England, etc., upon condition he than allow to the late King James and consort a handsome and competent subsistence during each of their Lives, and the survivor of them.

**Secondly:** That towards promoting effectually so good a work, he is willing to restore to his Catholic Majesty of Spain the City of Mons, and other places he has taken from him, etc.

**Thirdly:** That the City, and fortress of Philipsburg shall be restored by him to the bishop of Spire, in the condition it is now, without any alteration whatsoever.

**Fourthly:** That he will entirely quit Strasbourg, and restore it to its antient privileges of a free and Imperial City.

**Fifthly:** That he will demolish all the fortresses he has built along the Rhine for several years past.

**Sixthly and lastly:** That the Duke of Savoy shall be restored to all the territories he has lost since the war, and also receive full satisfaction for all the losses sustained therein.

But, my Lord, whether any such offers have been, or are like shortly to be offered to the Confederates by this Court, I am not fully satisfied but of this I am, and desire your Honour be so too, that things are not yet brought to that extremity with France, whatever some men may be apt to flatter themselves with, as to bring her to be real and sincere in such like offers.

Neither indeed do I find it believed here at all and they are much more concerned to break off the negotiation, which, is on foot between the Emperor and the Grand Seignior, than they have present real intentions to accommodate their own immediate affairs, and be at peace with, their neighbours.

But what progress they. have made to keep their Mohammedan friends in their alliance, I will not take upon me to inform your Lordship with any certainty; I only note, that they begin to talk of it here . already with very great assurance, as a thing at least, three quarters done.

I am afraid I have been both tedious, and impertinent too for which I heartily beg your Lordship to pardon me, and to construe all as proceeding from the unfeigned intentions I have to serve you to the farthest extent of my power; who am, and ever shall remain, **My Lord, Your most humble and devoted Servant. Paris, July 27, 1691.**



## **The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XXII**

**Of a couple of pamphlets spread up and down Paris; one entitled, A Letter from a Burgher of Norimberg, to a Deputy of the Dyet at Ratisbon; and the other, From my Lord — an English Privy Councillor, to the Earl of P—with an intent to foment divisions amongst the Confederates.**



**My Lord,**

**O** trouble your Lordship with an account of the many forgeries daily published here, to the intended disservice of the Confederates, I hold it none of my business; but there has very lately appeared up and down this City a pair of such singular pamphlets, levelled to the aforementioned purpose, that since I cannot

possibly enclose them herein, without manifestly incurring the hazard of my life, and your Lordship's reputation, I hold my self obliged to give you the import of them.

The one is entitled "Letter from a Burgher-master of Norimberg to a nameless deputy of the Dyet of Ratisbon; and contains in substance, that Germany has no reason to rejoice at the progress of the imperial arms against "the infidels", under a pretence of fear lest the Emperor's power should increase, to the prejudice of the liberty of the German potentates, and other dependents upon the Empire.

It does insinuate, that as soon as he has peace with the Turk, he will have at least an army of fourscore thousand men, all composed of his own soldiers, which he will not sail to quarter, by fair or foul means, upon the territories of the electors, other princes of the Empire, and the Free Cities; and then would slyly infused, in the close, a terror into the Germans, of their being reduced to the same deplorable condition as they were in the year 1623. when they had none but the City of Strasbourg, &c. which yet, by the help of the Swede, withstood the whole force of the Emperor Ferdinand II.

Your Lordship knows the story full well, I need not relate it; as you do how to make solid judgment of the invalidity of these whim wham pretensions, as well as to refute such cobweb arguments. The second is much of the same stamp, only the text is taken from the progress of King William's arms in Ireland; from whence they would foolishly infer, as in the former, that his growing thus formidable foreboded no good to the nations round him, (to France I believe it does not) and that not only England; Scotland and Ireland, but Holland too, and even the Catholic Spanish Low Countries ought to look about them; since it was very manifest he had now formed a design to reign with an arbitrary and despotic power over all those countries, and more particularly the former of them, notwithstanding all pretensions of vindicating their rights, and restoring to them their lost liberties, and his present allowing to the parliament, seemingly, a greater extent of authority than they enjoyed in former times.

It is too impertinent to run through all the vain repetitions used by them upon this subject; I shall therefore content my self to say, in a word, there is a great deal more of the ribaldry behind to the same purpose, and that I'll trouble your Lordship no longer with it, though confess, I could meet at this time with no better entertainment for you; who am yet proud of the opportunely to caution my Country against any snares laid for its liberty from hence, and overturning its settlement by groundless and unseasonable jealousies; as I am always to acknowledge how much **I am, My Lord, Your Lordship's most humble and devoted servant.**

Paris, Oct. 12. 1691





# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XXIII

**Of the great preparations made in France for the carrying on the war  
against the Confederates, in the year 1692.**

My Lord,



It is more the profound respect I have always had, and ever shall retain for your Lordship, that makes me thus continue my correspondence, than the weight of any information I am able to transmit from hence, where things are managed with as much application, as the contrivances are secret and mysterious.

I have, in a former letter, hinted to your Honour, that whatever appearances there might be made to dazzle the eyes of the Confederates, yet that things were not really brought to that pass in France; which appears confirmed to me now day by day, by the formidable preparations that are even already made for the approaching campaign: of which, let your Lordship be pleased to take such particulars as I have been able to learn, and whole effects I wish the Confederates may seasonably obviate.

Our great Engineer here, Monsieur Vauban, is lately gone, by a secret order, to view Dinant, Rocroy, and other frontier places on that side; where he has orders to add as many new fortifications to each place, as he thinks necessary, with an assurance that no money shall be wanting to that end.

Besides which care of their frontiers, the guards are ordered to be augmented with ten men in each troop, and such care taken, that they shall be the choicest men of France: over and above this, I am well assured, that besides 20,000 recruits that are to be raised for the old regiments, there will be new commissions very speedily issued out for a new Levy of 30,000 men, horse, foot and dragoons.

And if the power at Sea will be as formidable as some give out, I am not without a strong jealousy of some attempt projected to be made against England it self, though the Frenchmen have come off with so many broken bones in Ireland. But of this I can say very little that is certain at present, but desire your Lordship to rest assured, that no endeavours shall be wanting to give you an account also of their marine affairs, in him who is proud to served you; who am, and always will be, My Lord, Your Honour's most Humble and Obedient Servant.

Paris, Nov. 19, 1691

## POSTSCRIPT



HAD almost forgot to acquaint your Lordship, that whatever sentiments you may have in England of the affairs of Savoy, and the siege of Montmelian, they seem here so certain of reducing it, as if it were already in their hands.



# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XXIV

**Of King James's declaration in the year 1692, and his invitations to the English nobility to come into France, to be present at his Queen's delivery, &c.**

My Lord,



Have, since my last to your Lordship, been under many vicissitudes of fortune, and, among other afflictions been vilified with so long and severe a fit of sickness, that I cannot but persuade myself your Honour has long e'er now concluded me either dead, or turned renegade, and abandoned your service; the thoughts of which latter have afflicted me in a very sensible manner, and do now incite me with considerable hazard, to attempt the undeceiving you hereby in that particular and to communicate what I have very lately learnt, by the means of a friend great at Sr. Germain, of the posture of things in relation to England.

I hope you are not without considerable apprehensions of danger from hence, and so have made timorous preparations to ward off the blow. And whatever the designs may be on your side, it is most certain that there have been positive resolutions taken to make a decent upon the English coast with a formidable power very speedily, and the late king is resolved to be at the head of the enterprise.

To that end I am assured, all the Irish troops and other French forces, which will be joined with them, and which will make up a body of fifteen thousand men, are to hold themselves ready to march upon the first notice towards the coast of Normandy, where they are to rendezvous, and where the late King's designs to be with them with all the privacy imaginable and all this under a pretence of guarding the coasts against the insults of the English..

There are several transport ships already got together for this expedition, and the French fleet under Monsieur Tourville is in a great forwardness, and will be very formidable, I am fully satisfied, though I can give your Lordship no particulars. I am told also there is a manifesto or declaration contriving, and designed to be published when things are ripe for it, importing the late King's resolutions to attempt the recovery of his crown, with what forces of his own subjects he has with him, in conjunction with as few auxiliary troops as may be, that the English may take no umbrage thereat; shewing the justness of his cause, the great reason his people have to receive, him, that they cannot be happy till his reestablishment; promising mighty things for the nation, in respect to the settlement of religion, and grandeur of the English monarchy, and also a general Amnesty to all those that shall return quickly to their duty, except a few, whose names I could not yet learn.

I do not question my Lord, but there has been much discourse in England concerning the late Queen's pregnancy; I can give no manner of account of it, any otherwise than that the reality of it is not doubted here, and that I am told it has been projected to direct a letter to all the English nobility, to invite them to come into France, and be present at the delivery (which is thought will be in less than two Months) according to custom; and to allege they may do it with the greatest safety, in regard the French King will give his Royal word they shall return without lett or



molestation, so soon as the said Queen shall be delivered. But. as I do not expect to see your Lordships here on this occasion, so I hope you may be, very useful to keep our countrymen, that are on this side, here still, and disappoint their designs; which none is more desirous of, **than, My Lord, Your Humble Servant.**

St. Germ. Mar. 31 1692.



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XXV

**The French artifices to raise a mistrust in England of the officers  
of the English fleet in 1692.**

My Lord,



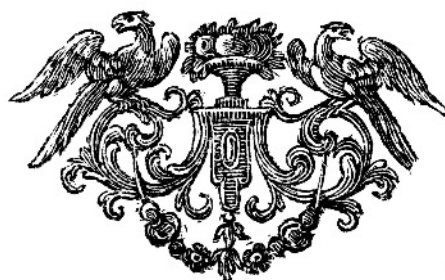
**D**o not question but your Lordship by this time is fully convinced of the intended invasion, as I hinted in my last; and it may be you have already felt the effects in some measure, of the evil seeds that are sown, amongst you, by those that are in this Court's interest, in order to divide and make you jealous of one another in this ticklish juncture.

If, your Lordship will give me leave to put in nay sentiment, I say, were I to advise the government (and I have good grounds for what I say) I would have it hold a watchful eye over the affairs and motions of the officers of the fleet; for there have been measures concerted to raise a mistrust and suspicion of the fidelity of the said naval officers and for ought I know, they are by this time near begun to be put in execution.

They would have it here believed that several of them have design to favour the. late King's descent, and, that others, are disaffected, and not hearty in the service. Such a belief in England must be very pernicious, if not fatal at present, especially if once the Officers be so far imposed upon, to fear being discharged of their employments; which apprehension seems to be the main design of England's enemies, to propagate.

But I must be as abrupt as I. have been short, and beg your Lordship's pardon; who am in haste, My lord, Your Humble Servant.

Paris, April 17, 1692





# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XXVI

**Of the French magnifying their power at sea, after the fight in  
May 1691, &c. and of the late Queen Mary's, being  
brought to bed at St. Germain's of a Daughter.**

My Lord,



**T**HO there is nothing more grievous to both courts here than the late defeat of the French fleet, yet the ministers have endeavoured to dissemble it with much application, and would make the drooping people believe it was a thing of inconsiderable, as that it is in a manner quite repaired already, and that their fleet is so reinforced, as to be in a condition not only to obviate the attempts of the enemy's navy, but after they have taken on board some necessaries, to put out to Sea and provoke them to a second engagement: to which end they have published a list of seventy men of war, besides frigates, etc., that they pretend to have ready, which shall not trouble your Lordship with a copy of, because I know it to be false.

And if the French ministers are thus put to it, to support their master's credit at this Juncture, they are almost past all hopes at St. Germain, where the late King and his disappointed followers are arrived, and who have nothing now to solace themselves with, but the happy delivery of his queen of a daughter: which second production, it's hoped, may overcome the obstinacy of men's minds, and make them at last believe the fruit was genuine.

But if there were a cloud of unlucky circumstances that attended the former there is one already known to have accompanied this also, viz. that the delivery was too quick, that madam, who was in this City, and made all the haste she could to go to the Labour, as soon as ever she had notice of it, could not yet get thither soon enough.

The affairs of Flanders and other parts where the war is, I forbear to touch on, as supposing your Lordship has an exact account of all the transactions that happen, sooner and more truly too than I can inform you from hence, where most things to the French disadvantage are as cunningly veiled over, as the successes are magnified wherefore I shall take my leave of you till something momentous does occur; and only subscribe myself, **My Lord, Your Lordship's most Humble and devoted Servant.**

Paris, June 30.1692





## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XXVII

**Conjecture of the French designs in the year 1693, against the Allies, and of their incendiaries to burn the Confederate cities.**

My Lord,



AM fully satisfied what a great noise the scarcity of bread in France makes in England, and the other confederated Countries; the misery indeed from that and other concurring causes is very great: but yet what may seem to some, less intelligent than your Lordship, very little less than a paradox, is, that the face of the Court is as splendid and gay, as ever I have known it in the time of France's highest prosperity; and nothing is talked of there, my Lord, but the mighty armies they have on foot by land, and their great forwardness to enter upon action, as well as their great power on the other element.

I am assured the King will very shortly leave Versailles, in order to be at the head of one of his armies; but whether he designs for Germany or the Netherlands, is yet a secret, though the vogue is, that the intended journey is for the latter, and that provision making for his reception at Compeign and Valenciennés.

This (I am told) having occasioned a certain courtier a day or two ago to say; that that road leads directly for Flanders; the same discourse coming quickly to the King's ears, he made answer, that a man might go from Valenciennés to Germany.

Your Lordship may make what judgment you please upon the expression, I'll leave it wholly to you; and shall at present only further inform you, that as I have formerly given you some account of what fires have been kindled in several cities of the Empire, Hungary, &c. by the agency of this Court.

I have more than a suspicion that the same practice is again set on foot, and that there are very many Incendiaries entertained by these ministers, to put the same in execution in divers parts of the Confederate countries; and I do desire your Lordship to believe, that as there is no villainy they will boggle at, for the compassing of their accursed ends, so there is none but what I am very forward to discover to your Honour, and proud of an opportunity so to do: **who am, My Lord, .Your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant.**

Versailles, Apr. 14, 1693.





# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XXVIII

**Of proposals of peace made by France to the emperor and empire in the year 1693.**

**My Lord,**



**HE** successes of the French arms, since the commencement of this unhappy war, against the empire of Germany, do not hinder this Court (as I am well assured) to make overtures of peace on that side particularly; the motions whereof the Confederates are narrowly to watch, to prevent the fatality of such a disjunction in their present Alliance.

The Swedes. are very busy in promoting the work, and the terms that are offered, are to this purpose; as I had them communicated to me by a particular hand.

**I.** That in general the King desires, that the treaties of Westphalia and Nimeguen may remain in full force and vigour.

**II:** That the truce concluded at Ratisbon in August 1684. for 20 Years, may be changed into a defensive treaty of peace, with such alterations as are hereafter explained: as,

**1).** That in recompense for the City of Strasbourg, which the most Christian King is in possession of and deigns to keep, Mont-Royal and Traerbach shall be raised, and restored to the prince to whom they belong; provided that neither of them refortify for the future.

**2).** That all the works of Fort Louis and Hunninghen, that are beyond the Rhine, shall in like manner be demolished.

**3).** That Philipsburg with the fortresses thereof shall be restored, as also, Friburg, in the same condition they are in at present.

**4).** That Heidelberg shall be given up to the Elector Palatine, and all the dependences of the palatinate, notwithstanding the claim of his Sister-in-law, the Duchess of Orleans, to several Lands and Fiefs therein; which losses the King will take upon him to repair: And as for Saar-Lovis, Binche and Homburg, he is willing to condescend to any equivalent for them, of equal revenue to the Elector.

**5).** That as for re-unions, if commissioners appointed on each side shall not be able to adjust them in a limited time, the French King will refer himself to the arbitration of the Republic of Venice.

I am further informed, my Lord, that Cardinal Fourbin has Orders to solicit this point also with the Pope, and to acquaint him how willing the King is to compose the Affairs of Europe and those of Italy in particular; and that himself shall have a plenary power to draw and regulate the conditions, provided in the first place, the restoration of the late King James be absolutely concluded upon: with which I la alto conclude this letter, from, My Lord, Your humble servant.

Paris, Aug. 11, 1693.



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XXIX

Of libels, in France against the Government, &c.

My Lord,



AM not to give your Lordship here the reason of my so long silence, since you know it already by a remarkable instance; and it is possible you may have by this time heard the issue of our King's march towards Pont Esperies, and the Dauphin's diligence to secure that pass.

Were you to have seen the consternation men generally were under in this city, upon the first advice of the said march, you would have thought all France had been in danger of being lost without retrieval; and the letter of thanks, which the King has dispatched to the Dauphin, the rest of the generals, and to every particular regiment, both French and Swiss by name, for their zeal and indefatigable industry for the preservation of their country, lives, and most important places on the Sea-Coast, is an evident demonstration hereof as the common murmurs, and many libels that appear abroad every day against the government, are no less a proof of the decline of the French affairs, and growing greatness of the Confederates; the causes of both which I need not take upon me to enumerate to your Lordship, since they are evident to none more than yourself. My Lord, I must keep my hand in use, and write to you, as long as I am here, and can have any opportunity to testify thereby how much I am, My Lord, Your humble and ever obliged servant.

Paris, Oct. 2, 1694



# The Secret History of Whitehall

## PART II

### LETTER XXX

**Of the late King James's receiving an account of Queen Mary's death, &c.**

My Lord,



**H**AVE had often some thoughts to inform your lord slip of many unhappy accidents that have befallen me of late in this Country; but had I been now at length fully determined to transmit the particulars, the general calamity in the untimely fate of the excellent MARY, Queen of Great Britain, &c. must have quite suppress it.

I am so concerned, not only for the present loss, but for the events to follow, that I am not fit for ordinary conversation.

It's hard to believe how elevated those in the late King's interests. are, upon this turn of things; but the truly virtuous, though Enemies, carry the signs of sorrow in their countenances.

This court and the late King have had very timely information of this our misfortune; and I am well assured they have had a long conference together upon the said subject; and that at the same time some letters have been dispatched in order to a Trial, whether any tares may be sown in England upon this occasion.

But I hope the prudent management. of affairs on your side, of which, the nation's enemies of late begin to. have, a high opinion, will choke them in production.

Neither of the courts are yet gone into mourning, neither is there any appearance, that they will; but several private gentlemen, under pretence of the death of relations in the country are in black.

For any other particulars I, beg your Lordship to pardon me, that I can give no account; and to believe that I am, My Lord, Your Lordship's most humble servant.

**Paris, Jan. 10, 1695**

## POSTSCRIPT

My Lord,

I had, under my present concern of mind, almost forgot to acquaint you, that five days ago, the Duke of Luxemburg departed this Life at Versailles, in the sixty fourth year of his age: while he was sick, the King continually sent to see how he did, and went often in person to visit and comfort him; and when he was dead, he publicly declared, That a greater loss could not have befallen him. I am, My Lord, Your's, &c.



## The Secret History of Whitehall PART II LETTER XXXI

**Of the success of the Confederates in Flanders Italy, &c. in the year 1695.  
with some account of the designs of France for the succeeding year; and of  
the author's design to return to England.**

My Lord,



**T**HE great success the Confederate arms have had this campaign, both in Italy and Brabant, by the reduction of Casal and Namur, is more mortifying to this court, than I am able to express, though a good mien is put upon it; and that it is already given out, that the King of France being weary of acting defensively, as has been done the last summer will act offensively next campaign; and that the council have already found ways, for the settling of sufficient funds towards the maintaining not only of such forces as are already on foot but for a considerable augmentation of them.

And for men, the raising of them is made practicable, by an edict, prohibiting all persons whatsoever to keep any male servants above one and twenty years of age; so that all young men that are above those years, must either starve, steal or go to the war. '

How far these projects may be put in execution, I know not; but I do believe them in the main impracticable: yet I question not but there are some more secret and dangerous machinations on foot; and the more than ordinary consultations between the two Kings, I fear, forebode no good to England in particular, some general observations that I have made of things during my aboard in — I shall reserve, till I see your Lordship, which my present circumstances urge me to; and which I hope and long to effect before:— who am in the mean time, and always will be, My Lord, Your Lordship's most humble servant.

Paris, Nov. 7 1695





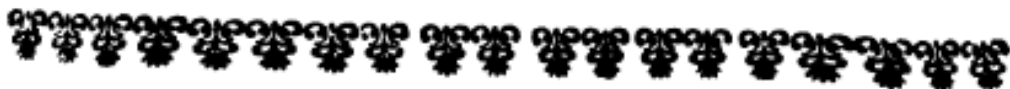
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OF THE  
*STUARTS,*  
FROM

The first Rise of that Family, in  
the Year 1086. to the Death of her  
late Majesty Queen ANNE, with  
whom determin'd the Name of the  
*STUARTS.*

---

By *D. JONES*, Gent.

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The Tragical History of The Stuarts which was once published  
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book in due course





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