

the heart."* This moral cowardice is a curious revelation of human inconsistency. "The villainous way of printing" was ever a terror to the man who would charge a redoubt with the utmost coolness. "Paper-bullets of the brain" were far more terrible to him than a volley of grape-shot. But Marlborough very speedily had far more serious embarrassments than the discomfort produced by his dreaded enemies, the London pamphleteers. The emperor Joseph was attacked by small-pox, and died on the 17th of April, in his thirty-fourth year. His brother Charles would succeed to the hereditary dominions of Austria, and all the political interests of Germany would be concentrated upon the election to the empire. The British cabinet instantly sent orders to Marlborough to cooperate with the States of Holland and with Eugene, in forwarding the election of the Austrian prince, in preference to that of the king of Bavaria. Louis secretly promoted the same object. The governments of England and France saw that the great obstacle to a separate peace would be removed, if Charles were elected emperor; for the danger to the balance of power from the emperor being king of Spain, was really greater than the danger of the crowns of France and Spain being in the family of the Bourbons. Peace would assuredly arise out of these complications, however unwilling the Austrian family might be to withdraw their pretensions to the Spanish monarchy. But the uncertainty of the future was too great to cause any essential difference in the conduct of the war in the Netherlands. Marlborough never stood in a loftier attitude than in the campaign of 1711. The expected co-operation of Prince Eugene in the command of the allied troops was interrupted by the necessity of his presence on the Upper Rhine. A portion of the British force was withdrawn from the Netherlands, to take part in a hopeless renewal of the war in Spain, or to be sent upon an ill-concerted expedition against Quebec. Marlborough, having lost the favour of the queen; distrusted and hated by the ministry; grown odious in the eyes of the people as the supposed obstacle to peace and relief from taxation; went about the performance of his military duties with a vigor and sagacity truly admirable. Marshal Villars, during the preceding autumn and winter, had constructed a series of fortified lines, which appeared well calculated to defy any interruption of the Allies upon the French frontier. They were boastfully asserted to be the *ne plus ultra* of Marlborough. The French army was also declared to be far stronger than that of the Allies. "The marshal de Villars was pleased to tell my trumpet yesterday, that the

* Coxe, vol. vi. p. 8.

death of the emperor would occasion great disorders among the Allies, and that he should be thirty thousand stronger than we." Thus Marlborough writes to Godolphin on the 4th of May; and adds, "If their superiority be as great as he says it will be, I should not apprehend much from them, but that of their being able to hinder us from acting, which, to my own particular, would be mortification enough; for since constant success has not met with approbation, what may I not expect when nothing is done!"* Marlborough was not hindered from acting by the French superiority of numbers, or by their impregnable lines. He had determined to invest Bouchain; but to do this it was necessary that he should pass those lines. By rapid changes of position; by taking an important post in one day, and suffering the enemy to concentrate their attention by its recapture, whilst he carried forward his ultimate design; by inducing Villars to fancy that the Allies were about to give him battle, and then suddenly marching away at nightfall; this wonderful strategy produced a result as great as if Marlborough had added one more to his roll of victories. On the 6th of August he wrote to secretary St. John that the whole army had passed the lines on the previous day, and were drawn up in order of battle. The reply of St. John offers the highest tribute to the strategy of the general: "My lord Stair had indeed opened to us the several steps which your grace intended to take in order to pass the enemy's lines in one part or other; it was, however, hard to imagine, and too much to hope, that a plan which consisted of so many parts, wherein so many different corps were to cooperate punctually together, should entirely succeed, and no one article fail of what your grace had projected. I most heartily congratulate with your grace on this great event, of which no more needs, I think, be said than that you have obtained, without losing a man, such an advantage as we should have bought with the expense of several thousand lives, and have reckoned ourselves gainers."† On the 24th of August Marlborough writes to St. John, to apprise him of his proceedings in the siege of Bouchain. The answer of the secretary is again a tribute to the genius of Marlborough: "I shall be very glad to have the plan of the situation of both armies, which your grace has promised to send me. I expect indeed that it should be very extraordinary, since I believe there is hardly one instance of an inferior army posting themselves so as to be able to form a siege and keep the communication open with their own country, in sight of an enemy so much superior."‡

* Coxe, vol. vi. p. 24.

† Marlborough Dispatches, vol. v. p. 429.

‡ *Ibid.*, p. 462.

On the 14th of September, the successful general announces to the sceptical secretary that the difficulties had been overcome—that Bouchain had surrendered: “Thus you see a place, which is of such consequence to either party, has, by the blessing of God, been reduced even in the sight of a superior army, that has left nothing unattempted towards relieving it, and who, being apprehensive of our success, have for some days past been burning and destroying all the forage about Quesnoy and Valenciennes to hinder our further progress, by endeavouring to make it impossible for us to subsist.”*

On the 8th of October Charles of Austria was elected emperor of Germany. He had previously left Spain; where, although troops were sent by the British government, nothing was done to retrieve the disasters of the previous year. In England, the conduct of the campaign by Marlborough was systematically disparaged. He was assailed for not having taken occasion to hazard battle with Villars; his passage of the French lines was termed crossing the kennel; and the capture of Bouchain was called the taking of a dove-cot, with the loss of sixteen thousand men. Marlborough was writhing under these attacks, and had the weakness to write to Harley, now lord Oxford, complaining that he “should be reviled in such a manner.” Oxford replied that he was himself every day the subject of some libel or other; and says, “I would willingly compound that all the ill-natured scribblers should have license to write ten times more against me, on condition that they would write against nobody else.”† St. John informs the queen in a note that Marlborough’s chaplain, Dr. Hare, had “published libels against your majesty’s government;” and is particularly angry against a sermon preached before the duke, and afterwards printed. He calls it “seditious.” It merely deprecated the conclusion of a precipitate and dishonourable peace. This was the sore point. Oxford and St. John had for some time been carrying on their secret negotiation with France for a peace, as if England were the sole party; and had been writing to Marlborough as if there could only be one policy—that of vigorously conducting the war till a general peace could be accomplished, in concert with the Allies. They knew that the notion which Marlborough and the Allies had of a general peace was, that it should contain a provision that no Bourbon prince should ever wear the crown of Spain. The ministry had signed a preliminary treaty with France, in which it was agreed that the crowns of France and Spain should not be worn by the same prince. It would be easier to destroy

* Marlborough Dispatches, vol. v. p. 490.

† Coxe, vol. vi. p. 123.

Marlborough than to convert him; and the ministers vigorously set about his destruction.

The army went into winter-quarters, and Marlborough came home, landing at Greenwich, on the 17th of November. He heard that London was in some confusion. The usual procession on the birth-day of queen Elizabeth, when it was customary to burn the effigies of the pope, the devil, and other illustrious personages, was conceived by the ministry to be as dangerous to the public peace as the similar procession in the time of Titus Oates.* A quantity of puppets was seized in a house in Drury-lane, on the night of the 16th; one of which, representing the lord treasurer, was a fearful libel. “I am assured,” says Swift, “that the figure of the devil is made as like lord treasurer as they could. It was a capital occasion to get up a squib against the Whigs; and the reverend counsellor of the Tories says, “I have put an understrapper upon writing a twopenny pamphlet, to give an account of the whole design.”† The “understrapper” was the great ally of the lord treasurer and the secretary; and one object of the twopenny pamphlet is clear enough from this passage: “The duke of Marlborough was to make his entry through Aldgate, where he was to be met with the cry of ‘Victory! Bouchain! the lines, the lines!’” Marlborough had as little to promise himself from mob-favour as from court-favour. The lines and Bouchain were worthless to his immediate fame, and did not save him from ungenerous reproach in the highest place. The parliament was opened by the queen on the 7th of December; and the application of the opening words of her speech could not be mistaken: “I have called you together as soon as the public affairs would permit; and I am glad that I can now tell you, that, notwithstanding the arts of those who delight in war, both place and time are appointed for opening the treaty of a general peace.” In the debate which ensued, Marlborough spoke with an animation and solemnity which rarely marked his course in parliamentary proceedings. The queen was in the House: “He could declare with a safe conscience, in the presence of her majesty, of that illustrious assembly, and of that Supreme Being, who is infinitely above all the powers upon earth, and before whom, according to the ordinary course of nature, he must soon appear, to give an account of his actions, that he ever was desirous of a safe, honourable, and lasting peace; and that he was always very far from any design of prolonging the war for his own private advantage, as his enemies had most falsely insinuated. That his advanced age, and the many fatigues he had undergone,

* *Annales*, vol. iv. p. 239.

† *Journal to Stella*.

made him earnestly wish for retirement and repose, to think of eternity the remainder of his days; the rather, because he had not the least motive to desire the continuance of the war, having been so generously rewarded, and had honours and riches heaped upon him, far beyond his desert and expectation, both by her majesty and her parliaments. That he thought himself bound to this public acknowledgment to her majesty and his country, that he should always be ready to serve them, if he could but crawl along, to obtain an honourable and lasting peace; but that, at the same time, he must take the liberty to declare, that he could, by no means, give into the measures that had lately been taken to enter into a negotiation of peace with France, upon the foot of the seven preliminary articles; for, he was of the same opinion with the rest of the Allies, that the safety and liberties of Europe would be in imminent danger, if Spain and the West Indies were left to the House of Bourbon; which, with all humility, and as he thought himself in duty bound, he had declared to her majesty, whom he had the honour to wait on after his return from Holland; and, therefore, he was for inserting in the Address the Clause offered by the earl of Nottingham.* The amendment of Nottingham was to the effect "that no peace could be safe or honourable to Great Britain, or Europe, if Spain and the West Indies were allotted to the House of Bourbon." The amendment was carried by a majority of sixty-two against fifty-four. A similar amendment in the Commons was rejected by a majority of two hundred and thirty-two against a hundred and six. In the Address of the lower House to the queen, the feeling against Marlborough was kept up by an especial reference to "the arts and devices of those who, for private views, may delight in war."

The ministers of queen Anne put a falsehood into her mouth in her answer to the Address of the Lords: "I should be sorry any one could think I would not do my utmost to recover Spain and the West Indies from the House of Bourbon." The ministerial duplicity was a result of the terror which they felt at their probable ejection from power, and at the prospect of Whig revenge upon the discovery of their clandestine dealings with France. Swift has related that the most bitter of their opponents, the earl of Wharton, "was observed in the House to smile, and put his hands to his neck when any of the ministry was speaking, by which he would have it understood that some heads were in danger." † Swift begged St. John to send him abroad "before a change." He says, "I took him aside after dinner, told him how I had served

* "Parliamentary History," vol. vi. col. 1038. † "Four Last Years of Queen Anne."

them, and had asked no reward, but thought I might ask security."* We doubt if he was altogether in a jocular mood, when he thus manifested his fears to Oxford: "I told lord-treasurer I should have the advantage of him; for he would lose his head, and I should only be hanged, and so carry my body entire to the grave." † Party-hatreds were becoming so intense, that heading and hanging were not altogether out of the question. But lord-treasurer and secretary kept their places, and with their majority in the Commons, and their better management of the queen—who had been somewhat impatient of their attempts to govern her—they turned their thoughts to the mode in which they could best damage and destroy their adversaries. Marlborough was the first victim. The "falcon" Churchill, was "hawk'd at and killed" by "the mousing owl," Harley. On the 31st of December, the following entry was made in the minutes of the Cabinet Council: "Being informed that an information against the duke of Marlborough was laid before the House of Commons, by the Commissioners of the public accounts, her majesty thought fit to dismiss him from all his employments, that the matter might undergo an impartial investigation." The prelude to "an impartial investigation" was to load the object of it with disgrace. On the 1st of January, Swift enters in his Journal, "Marlborough is turned out of all. . . . If the ministry be not sure of a peace, I shall wonder at this step, and do not approve it at best. The queen and lord treasurer mortally hate the duke of Marlborough, and to that he owes his fall, more than to his other faults. . . . Opinion is a mighty matter in war, and I doubt the French think it impossible to conquer an army that he leads, and our soldiers think the same; and how far even this step may encourage the French to play tricks with us, no one knows." The one-sided pamphleteer could think impartially in the private record of his feelings and opinions.

The information against the duke of Marlborough would, in another generation, have properly consigned a great public servant to the lowest depth of ignominy, and have called for exemplary punishment. He was an avaricious man; he clutched at all the gold he could safely touch, and he kept it tightly buttoned up, to his own undisguised satisfaction. Peterborough measured his character pretty accurately, when, being mistaken by a truculent mob for Marlborough in the wane of his popularity, he exclaimed, "I am not the duke, and I will prove it. I have only five guineas in my pocket, and you shall have them." But Marlborough was too cautious to seize upon perquisites and appropriate funds for

* Journal, Dec. 9.

† *Ibid.*, Dec. 8.

which he had not strict precedent. The charges against him were under too heads, and were declared established by large majorities in the House of Commons: 1. "That the taking several sums of money, annually, by the duke of Marlborough from the contractors for furnishing the bread and bread waggons in the Low Countries, was unwarrantable and illegal." This charge against him came to the knowledge of the duke before he returned to England in November, and he at once wrote to the Commissioners of public accounts, not denying the information which sir Solomon de Medina had given them, that he had made such payments, but saying, "this is no more but what has been allowed as a perquisite to the general, or commander-in-chief, of the army in the Low Countries, even before the Revolution, and since." He added his assurance that whatever had been so received had been "constantly employed for the service of the public, in keeping secret correspondence, and getting intelligence of the enemy's motions and designs."* The second resolution of the Commons was, "that the deduction of 2½ per cent. from the pay of the foreign troops in her majesty's service, is public money, and ought to be accounted for." Marlborough, in his letter to the Commissioners, had anticipated this second charge, by informing them that, as the plenipotentiary of William III., he had negotiated with the foreign states, that 2½ per cent. should be deducted from the pay of their troops, to cover all charges for secret service; and that when he succeeded to the command, the queen, by warrant, authorized his receipt of the same per-centage, which he had strictly applied "for procuring timely and good advices." The question of Marlborough's criminality may long remain an open one. But we cannot have a stronger proof of the growth of good government, than the certainty that no such temptation to dishonesty could now be presented to any high public servant; and that no one who has now the conduct of civil or military affairs would incur the fearful responsibility of disbursing large sums of money without being accountable for them. Marlborough's defence was certainly very incomplete, as judged by the opinions of our own times; but it seems to have satisfied all but the furious partizans of the ministry to whom his high influence, especially in foreign courts, was a serious obstacle to their policy. When the queen dismissed him by an insulting letter, he boldly replied he would not "join in the counsel of a man who, in my opinion, puts your majesty upon all manner of extremities. And it is not my opinion only, but the opinion of all mankind, that the friendship of France must needs

* Coxe vol. vi. p. 124.

be destructive to your majesty, there being in that court a root of enmity, irreconcilable to your majesty's government, and the religion of these kingdoms."*

The discomfiture of the ministry in the House of Lords was stopped from going farther, by a bold but dangerous manœuvre. They created twelve new peers. Lord Dartmouth has given an interesting account of what came to his knowledge with regard to this measure:—"I was never so much surprised as when the queen drew a list of twelve lords out of her pocket, and ordered me to bring warrants for them; there not having been the least intimation before it was to be put in execution. I asked her, if she designed to have them all made at once. She asked me, if I had any exceptions to the legality of it. I said, no; but doubted very much of the expediency, for I feared it would have a very ill effect in the House of Lords, and no good one in the kingdom. She said, she had made fewer lords than any of her predecessors, and I saw the duke of Marlborough and the Whigs were resolved to distress her as much as they could, and she must do what she could to help herself. I told her, I wished it proved a remedy to what she so justly complained of, but I thought it my duty to tell her my apprehensions, as well as execute her commands. She thanked me, and said, she liked it as little as I did, but did not find that anybody could propose a better expedient. I asked lord Oxford afterwards, what was the real inducement for taking so odious a course, when there were less shocking means to have acquired the same end. He said, the Scotch lords were grown so extravagant in their demands, that it was high time to let them see they were not so much wanted as they imagined; for they were now come to expect a reward for every vote they gave."† There was no decided notice taken of this proceeding in the House of Lords. Lord Wharton took occasion to say one of the humorous things recorded of an age of humourists. He asked one of the twelve new peers whether they voted by their foreman.

The opposition of the Peers being in some degree disarmed by this new creation, and the Commons being decidedly with the ministry, the queen sent a message to Parliament on the 17th of January, which contained the important announcement that "her majesty's plenipotentiaries are arrived at Utrecht; and have begun, in pursuance of their instructions, to concert the most proper ways of procuring a just satisfaction to all in alliance with her, according to their several Treaties, and particularly with relation to Spain and the West Indies."

* Coxe, vol. vi. p. 154.

† Note on Burnet, vol. vi. p. 87.

NOTE TO CHAPTER XIII.

The constant references in historical works to the Treaties between nations, which are briefly mentioned as "The Peace of Ryswick," "The Partition Treaties," "The Peace of Utrecht," &c., &c., have induced us to reprint the following Table, which appeared in the "Companion to the Almanac for 1831," a work edited by the author of the "Popular History of England." The present Table is brought down to the Alliance of Vienna, 1731, and it will be continued to a more recent period, in a subsequent Volume.

A CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE of the more IMPORTANT TREATIES between the principal civilized Nations; with Notices of the WARS and other Events with which they are connected: from the beginning of the Fourteenth Century.

EDWARD II.

- 1326 War between England and France, on the subject of a fortress in Guienne, which Edward II. claimed as his of right.

EDWARD III.

- 1327 Peace between Robert Bruce and Edward III. The independence of Scotland acknowledged.
- 1336 Edward III. renews his pretensions to the crown of France, and enters into a league with the revolted Flemings.
- 1356 The German Constitution, known by the name of the *Golden Bull*, sanctioned; and the mode of electing the emperor determined.
- 1360 May 8: peace concluded with France, at Breigny near Chartres, whereby England retained Gascony and Guienne, acquired Saintonge, Agenois, Perigord, Limosin, Bigorre, Angoumois, and Rouergne, and renounced her pretensions to Maine, Anjou, Touraine, and Normandy; England was also to receive 3,000,000 crowns, and to release king John, who had been long prisoner in London.
- 1370 War recommenced between France and England.

RICHARD II.

- 1381 Peace ratified between Venice and Genoa.
- 1385 The French united with the Scotch against England, upon which Richard II. invaded Scotland and burnt Edinburgh.
- 1390 Sultan Bajazet ratified a treaty with the Greek emperor, John Palæologus.

HENRY IV.

- 1412 Henry IV. of England leagued with the duke of Orleans, regent of France, in order to oppose the duke of Burgundy.

HENRY V.

- 1415 August: Henry V. of England commences war against France.
- 1420 May 21: *Treaty of Troyes* between England, France, and Burgundy, whereby it was stipulated that Henry V. should marry Catherine, daughter of Charles VI., be appointed regent of France, and after the death of Charles should inherit the crown.

HENRY VI.

- 1423 Treaty between England and Burgundy.
- 1435 September 22: *Treaty of Arras* between France and Burgundy. Several towns annexed to the duchy of Burgundy.
- 1439 The *Pragmatic Sanction* settled in France, regulating the election of bishops, and moderating the power of the pope.
- 1453 The first alliance entered into between the French and Swiss.

EDWARD IV.

- 1464 A league, designated "*For the public good*," formed between the dukes of Burgundy, Brittany, and Bourbon, and others, against Louis XI. of France.
- 1465 *Treaty of Conflans*, between Louis XI. and the chiefs of the above league. Normandy ceded to the duke of Berri.
- 1468 Louis XI. having placed himself in the power of the duke of Burgundy, was forced to sign a treaty at Peronne, confirming those of Arras and Conflans, with some other stipulations.
- 1474 Peace concluded between Edward IV. of England and Louis XI. of France.
- 1475 The *Peace of Picquigni*.
- 1475 Charles the Bold, of Burgundy, concluded a treaty with the French king, but speedily afterwards leagued against him with Edward IV. of England, and the duke of Brittany. Louis XI., on the other hand, entered into a treaty with the Switzers, and succeeded ultimately in becoming an ally of England, which unexpected change determined the duke of Burgundy to conclude a truce at Vervins for nine years.
- 1476 Charles of Burgundy commenced war against the Switzers, in which he eventually lost his life.
- 1482 The *Treaty of Arras*, between Maximilian of Austria, the husband of Mary of Burgundy, and Louis XI. of France, whereby Margaret, daughter of the former, was espoused to the dauphin, son of the latter, with Artois and Burgundy as a dowry.
- 1487 Peace concluded at Edinburgh between England and Scotland.

HENRY VII.

- 1494 War commenced by France for the possession of Naples, bequeathed to the king by Charles du Maine, which was opposed by the pope, the emperor, the king of Spain, the Venetians, and the duke of Milan—France being ultimately forced to abandon her claim.
- 1497 Treaty between England and Scotland, by which Perkin Warbeck was compelled to quit the latter kingdom.
- 1501 Treaty between Louis XII. of France and Ferdinand of Spain, for the kingdom of Naples; this partition, however, gave rise to a war between those powers, and eventually Naples remained in possession of Spain.
- 1508 December 10: the *League of Cambray* against the Republic of Venice, comprising the pope, the emperor, and the kings of France and Spain. Venice forced to cede to Spain her possessions in the kingdom of Naples.

HENRY VIII.

- 1510 *Holy League* against Louis XII. of France.
- 1514 France obliged to sue for peace, which was obtained from the pope, by promising to

- abolish the Pragmatic Sanction; from the king of Spain, by uniting his grandson, the duke of Ferrara, to Renée, daughter of the king of France; and from England, by Louis XII. espousing Mary, sister of Henry VIII.
- 1515 On the accession of Francis I., a war was commenced by France for the recovery of the Milanese.
- 1516 August 16: the *Treaty of Noyon*.
- 1521 *Edict of Worms*, proscribing Luther and his adherents.
- 1521 First war between France and Charles V.; France endeavouring to reinstate Henry d'Albret in the kingdom of Navarre.
- 1521 The emperor Charles V. prevailed upon Henry VIII. to declare war against France.
- 1522 War commenced between France and Scotland, and also between France and England.
- 1525 A treaty concluded between Francis I. and England.
- 1526 Francis I., to release himself from captivity, signed a treaty with Charles V., surrendering Burgundy, Artois, Flanders, &c., and renouncing all pretensions to Italy.
- 1527 Second war between Francis I. and Charles V. The pope taken prisoner at Rome.
- 1527 A treaty of mutual obligation entered into between France and England; and in the same year a fresh treaty, for the purpose of carrying war into Italy to restore the pope to liberty.
- 1529 August 5: the *Peace of Cambray*.
- 1529 December: the *League of Smalcald* in Franconia, entered into between the elector of Brandenburg and other princes of Germany, in defence of Protestantism.
- 1532 June 23: a new treaty of alliance ratified between the kings of England and France.
- 1532 August 2: the *Treaty of Nuremberg* ratified.
- 1536 Third war between Francis I. and Charles V. for possession of Milan.
- 1538 June 18: *Treaty of Nice* between Francis I. and Charles V.
- 1541 Fourth war between Francis I. and Charles V.
- 1542 Henry VIII. of England attacked Scotland, in order to force an alliance between the young queen Mary and his son prince Edward, which was terminated by a peace the following year. This attempt was as unsuccessfully renewed in 1547, after the accession of Edward VI.
- 1544 League between England and the emperor Charles V. against France; shortly after which peace was concluded with France, and signed at Cressy in Valois.

EDWARD VI.

- 1548 May 15: the *Interim* granted by the emperor Charles V. to the Protestants of Germany.
- 1549 Peace ratified between France and England. Boulogne restored to France.
- 1551 October 5: *Treaty of Friedwald*, between France and the Protestant princes of Germany.
- 1552 January 15: *Treaty of Chambord*, confirming the League between France and the Protestant princes of Germany.
- 1552 August 12: *Treaty of Passau*, ratified between Charles V. and the Protestant princes of Germany. Freedom of religion established.

MARY.

- 1554 *Treaty of Naumburg*, between Augustus elector of Saxony, and the deposed elector, John Frederic—the electorate to descend to John Frederic and his heirs, in default of heirs male of Augustus.
- 1555 *Peace of Religion*, concluded at Augsburg,—a confirmation of the treaty of Passau, establishing the free exercise of the Protestant religion.
- 1556 England entered into an alliance with Spain against France.
- 1558 February: the French took Calais, which had been in the possession of the English since 1347.

ELIZABETH.

- 1559 *Peace of Chateau Cambresis*, between France, Spain, and Piedmont. France ceded Savoy, Corsica, and nearly 200 forts in Italy and the Low Countries.
- 1560 Peace ratified between England, France, and Scotland.
- 1561 *Treaty of Wilna*, between the Northern Powers.
- 1562 The French Protestants having had recourse to arms, Elizabeth sent over succours to their assistance.
- 1563 War between Sweden and Denmark.
- 1564 April 29: peace ratified between France and England.
- 1570 *Peace of St. Germain*.
- 1570 December 13: *Peace of Stettin*, between Sweden and Denmark.
- 1571 Spain, Venice, and the pope, combine against the Turks, who were endeavouring to subdue Cyprus.
- 1572 Peace concluded between England and France.
- 1576 The United States of the Netherlands send deputies to the Hague, who declare Philip II. divested of his principality, and appoint William, prince of Orange, for their governor or stadtholder.
- 1576 November 8: *Pacification of Ghent*, by which foreign troops were expelled from the Netherlands and the Inquisition abolished.
- 1576 The *League* begins in France.
- 1579 January 22: the *Union of Utrecht*, formed by Holland, Utrecht, Zealand, Friesland, and Guelderland, by which the republic of Holland was constituted. Overysel joined in 1580, and Groningen in 1594.
- 1595 War declared by France against Spain.
- 1595 May 18: *Peace of Teusin*, between Russia and Sweden, which powers had been at war, with an interval of seven years' truce, from 1572.
- 1598 May 2: peace ratified at Vervins between France and Spain; Spain restores her conquests of Calais, Amiens, &c.

JAMES I.

- 1603 A treaty between James I. of England and Henry IV. of France, in order to support the States General against the Spanish branch of the house of Austria.
- 1604 August 13: peace between England and Spain ratified.
- 1609 April 4: the truce of 12 years between the Spaniards and Dutch.
- 1610 *Treaty of Halle*, between the Protestant princes of the Empire.
- 1610 *League of Würzburg*, between the Catholic princes of the Empire.
- 1613 *Peace of Störö*, concluding a war of two years between Sweden and Denmark.
- 1619 Peace between France and Spain; marriage of Louis XIII. with Anne of Austria, infanta of Spain.
- 1619 September 5: the elector palatine, Frederic V., son-in-law of James I., accepted the crown of Bohemia offered to him by the Protestant states. This was the beginning of the Thirty Years' War.
- 1620 July 3: *Peace of Ulm*, by which Frederic V. lost Bohemia.
- 1622 Conquest of the Palatinate, by the emperor Ferdinand II.
- 1625 *Danish period* of the Thirty Years' War, when Christian IV. became the head of the Protestant party. Treaty between Denmark, England, and Holland.

CHARLES I.

- 1626 League of the Swedes, Dutch, and the Protestant princes of Germany, against the emperor.
- 1627 War commenced by England against France, in favour of the distressed French Protestants.
- 1629 War commenced by the king of France against the emperor, the king of Spain, and the duke of Savoy, in favour of the claims of the duke of Nevers to the territory of Mantua.

- 1629 April 14: peace ratified with France.
 1629 May 22: *Peace of Lubeck*, between the emperor and king of Denmark.
 1630 France joined the Protestant princes of Germany, Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden, and Holland, against the house of Austria, in Germany and Spain.
 1630 England also acceded to the above alliance, with a view of procuring the restoration of the elector palatine.
 1630 June 24. *Swedish period* of the Thirty Years' War, when Gustavus Adolphus made a descent on the Isle of Rügen.
 1630 October 13: *Peace of Ratisbon*, between France and the emperor; terminating the war for the Mantuan succession.
 1630 November 27: peace proclaimed between England and Spain.
 1631 January 13: subsidizing alliance of France with Sweden.
 1631 April: *Alliance of Leipzig*, between the elector of Saxony and the Protestant princes.
 1631 *Treaty of Chierasco*, by which the duke of Nevers finally takes possession of his Mantuan territories.
 1633 March: *Treaty of Heilbron*, between Sweden and the Northern Protestant States of Germany, after the death of Gustavus Adolphus.
 1635 February 28: alliance between France and Holland.
 1635 May 30: *Peace of Prague* between the emperor and the elector of Saxony.
 1635 May 19: war declared by France against Spain. France entered actively into the Thirty Years' War, forming the *French period*.
 1640 Civil wars in England commenced; the Scotch army take Newcastle.
 1641 The duke of Braganza, having been declared king of Portugal, entered into an alliance with France, in their contest against Spain.
 1648 January 30: *Peace of Munster* between Spain and the Dutch. Independence of Holland fully recognised.
 1648 October 24: the *Peace of Westphalia* signed at Munster and at Osnaburg, between France, the emperor, and Sweden; Spain continuing the war against France. By this peace the principle of a balance of power in Europe was first recognised; Alsace given to France, and part of Pomerania and some other districts to Sweden; the elector palatine restored to the Lower Palatine; the civil and political rights of the German states established; and the independence of the Swiss Confederation recognised by Germany.

COMMONWEALTH.

- 1651 October: war commenced between the English Commonwealth and the Dutch.
 1654 April 5: peace ratified between the Dutch and the Commonwealth of England.
 1655 November 3: articles of peace signed between England and France.
 1656 February 15: Spain declared war against England.
 1656 November 10: *Treaty of Liebau*, which annulled the feudal subjection of the duchy of Prussia to the crown of Sweden.
 1657 March 23: treaty of alliance between England and France against Spain.
 1657 May 27: alliance of Vienna between Poland, Denmark, and the emperor, against Sweden.
 1659 May 21: *Treaty of the Hague* between England, France, and Holland, to maintain the equilibrium of the North.
 1659 November 7: peace concluded between France and Spain, by the *Treaty of the Pyrenees*; Spain yielding Roussillon, Artois, and her rights to Alsace; and France ceding her conquests in Catalonia, Italy, &c., and engaging not to assist Portugal.
 1660 May 3: the *Peace of Oliva* ratified between Sweden, Poland, Prussia, and the emperor. Esthonia and Livonia given up to Sweden.
 1660 September: a proclamation issued at London for the cessation of hostilities with Spain.
 1660 May 27: *Peace of Copenhagen* between Sweden and Denmark.

CHARLES II.

- 1661 June 23: treaty of alliance between England and Portugal.
 1663 France entered into a defensive alliance with Holland and Switzerland.
 1664 November: the second war commenced between England and Holland.
 1664 War between the Turks and the emperor of Germany; after the Turks had been defeated the *Truce of Temeswar* was concluded, on September 7, for 20 years; the emperor ceding Great Waradein and Neuhäusel.
 1666 January 26: France declared war against England; the Dames also entered into a league with the Dutch against England.
 1666 October: war declared by England against Denmark.
 1667 July 25: *Peace of Breda* concluded between England, France, Holland, and Denmark.
 1668 January 28: a treaty of alliance ratified between the States General and England, against France, for the protection of the Spanish Netherlands; Sweden afterwards joining the league, it was known as the *Triple Alliance*.
 1668 February 13: *Peace of Lisbon* concluded between Spain and Portugal through the mediation of England. Independence of Portugal acknowledged by Spain.
 1668 May 2: *Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle* between France and Spain signed. France yields Franche Comté, but retains her conquests in the Netherlands.
 1669 May 7: *Treaty of the Hague* between Holland and Portugal: the Dutch allowed to retain their conquests in India.
 1672 Treaty between France and England (12th February), and Sweden (14th April) against Holland.
 1672 August 30: an alliance entered into between the emperor, Spain, and Holland, against France.
 1673 June 16: *Peace of Vossem* between the elector of Brandenburg and France, the former engaging not to assist the Dutch.
 1673 France declared war against Spain.
 1674 February 19: *Peace of Westminster* between England and Holland.
 1674 June: The Empire declared war against France.
 1678 January 10: treaty concluded between England and Holland, by which Holland detached Charles II. from the interests of France.
 1678 August 11: *Peace of Niméguen* concluded between France and Holland. Spain accedes to the peace 17th September, giving up Franche Comté, &c.; the emperor on the 5th February following; and Sweden on March 29.
 1679 June 29: *Peace of St. Germain en Laye*, concluded between France, Sweden, and the elector of Brandenburg.
 1679 September 2: *Peace of Fontainebleau* between France and Denmark.
 1683 March 31: *Alliance of Warsaw*, between Austria and Poland, against Turkey, in pursuance of which John Sobieski assisted in raising the siege of Vienna, on September 12.
 1684 August 15: truce of Ratisbon concluded by France with Spain and the Empire, terminating the war of the previous year.

JAMES II.

- 1686 *League of Augsburg* entered into by Holland and other European powers, for the purpose of causing the treaties of Munster and Nimeguen to be fulfilled on the part of France.
 1688 France commences hostilities against the Confederated States and ravages the Palatinate.

WILLIAM III.

- 1689 May 7: war declared by England against France.
 1689 May 12: the *Grand Alliance* signed at Vienna between England, the emperor, and the States-General; to which Spain and the duke of Savoy afterwards acceded.

- 1696 August 29: the duke of Savoy quitted the coalition, and entered into a treaty with France.
- 1697 September 20: *Peace of Ryswick*, between France, England, Spain, and Holland; signed by Germany, 30th October.
- 1698 October 11: *First Treaty of Partition* signed between France, England, and Holland, for the purpose of regulating the succession of the territories of the king of Spain. Joseph Ferdinand, electoral prince of Bavaria, declared presumptive heir.
- 1699 January 26: *Peace of Carlowitz*, between Turkey and Germany, Poland, Russia, and Venice.
- 1700 March 13: *Second Treaty of Partition* between France, England, and Holland, declaring the archduke Charles presumptive heir of the Spanish monarchy, Joseph Ferdinand having died in 1699.
- 1700 October 2: Charles II., last male branch of the house of Austria reigning in Spain, bequeaths the kingdom to Philip of Anjou.
- 1700 November 1: Charles II. of Spain died, and the claim of Philip of Anjou was recognised by the court of France.
- 1701 September 7: England and Holland conclude a formal alliance at the Hague, to resist the claim of Philip of Anjou, to which almost all the European states successively accede.
- 1701 November 16: King James II. dying, his son was proclaimed king of England by France, upon which William III. commanded the return of his ambassadors from France, and ordered the departure of the French ambassador from London.

ANNE.

- 1702 May 4: war declared against France and Spain, by England, the Empire, and Holland.
- 1703 The *Methuen Treaty* between England and Portugal, principally for the regulation of commerce.
- 1706 September 24: *Peace of All Ransstadt*, between Charles XII. of Sweden and Augustus of Poland.
- 1711 July 2: *Peace of Falczi* concluded between Russia and Turkey, the Russians giving up Azoff and all their possessions on the Black Sea to the Turks; in the following year the war was renewed, and terminated by the *Peace of Constantinople*, on April 16, 1712.
- 1713 April 11: *Peace of Utrecht*, signed by the ministers of Great Britain and France, as well as of all the other allies, except the ministers of the Empire. The most important stipulations of this treaty were the security of the Protestant succession in England, the disuniting the French and Spanish crowns, the destruction of Dunkirk, the enlargement of the British colonies and plantations in America, and a full satisfaction for the claims of the allies.
- 1713 April 17: the emperor Charles VI. published the *Pragmatic Sanction*, whereby, in default of the male issue, his daughters should succeed in preference to the sons of his brother Joseph I.
- 1713 July 13: the *Treaty of Utrecht* signed by Spain.
- 1714 March 6: *Peace of Radstadt* between France and the emperor.

GEORGE I.

- 1714 September 7: *Peace of Baden*, between France and the emperor. Landau ceded to France.
- 1715 November 15: the *Barrier Treaty* signed at Antwerp, by the British, the Imperial, and Dutch Ministers. Low Countries ceded to the emperor.
1717. January 4: the *Triple Alliance of the Hague* between France, England, and Holland, to oppose the designs of Cardinal Alberoni, the Spanish minister.
- 1718 July 21: *Peace of Passarowitz* between the emperor, Venice, and Turkey.
- 1718 August 2: the treaty of alliance between Great Britain, France, and the emperor

- signed at London. This alliance, on the accession of the States of Holland obtained the name of the *Quadruple Alliance*, and was for the purpose of guaranteeing the succession of the reigning families in Great Britain and France, and settling the partition of the Spanish monarchy.
- 1718 November 18: the duke of Savoy joined the Quadruple Alliance, signing the treaty by his envoys at Whitehall.
- 1718 December 16: war declared by England against Spain.
- 1718 December 22: war declared against Spain by France, under the administration of the regent, duke of Orleans.
- 1719 November 20: *Peace of Stockholm* between the king of Great Britain and the queen of Sweden, by which the former acquired the duchies of Bremen and Verden as elector and duke of Brunswick.
- 1720 January 26: the king of Spain accepts and signs the Quadruple Alliance.
- 1721 August 30: *Peace of Nystett*, in Finland, between Sweden and Russia, whereby Livonia and Ingria were ceded to Russia.
- 1724 March 24: *Treaty of Stockholm* between Russia and Sweden, in favour of the duke of Holstein Gottorp.
- 1725 April 30: The *Vienna Treaty*, signed between the emperor of Germany and the king of Spain, by which they confirmed to each other such parts of the Spanish dominions as they were respectively possessed of, and by a private treaty the emperor engaged to employ a force to procure the restoration of Gibraltar to Spain, and to use means for placing the Pretender on the throne of Great Britain. Spain guaranteed the Pragmatic Sanction.
- 1725 September 3: the *Hanover Treaty*, concluded between the kings of England, France, and Prussia, as an act of self-defence against the provisions of the Vienna treaty.
- 1726 War between England and Spain commenced.
- 1726 August 6: treaty of alliance between Russia and the emperor.
- 1727 May 31: preliminary articles for a general pacification, signed at Paris by the ministers of Great Britain, the emperor, the king of France, and the States-General.

GEORGE II.

- 1727 October 21: *Treaty of Nipchoo* (Nerchinsk) between Russia and China, by which the boundaries of the two empires were settled, a Russian residence at Pekin allowed, and 200 merchants allowed to trade to China once in three years. Not ratified until June 14, 1728, in consequence of the death of Catherine.
- 1728 June 14: a congress commenced its sittings at Soissons.
- 1729 November 9: the *Peace of Seville*, between the courts of Great Britain, France, and Spain; and a defensive alliance entered into: to this treaty the States of Holland afterwards acceded, November 21.
- 1731 March 16: the *Treaty of Alliance of Vienna*, between the emperor, Great Britain, and Holland, by which the Pragmatic Sanction was guaranteed, and the disputes as to the Spanish succession terminated; Spain acceded to the treaty on the 22nd of July.