

was a very wise Constitution to unite them in one House, where they might hear their mutual Reasons and Debates, and by this means their Resolutions would have the greater Authority.

These two Orders thus united, became *two Estates*, which together with the Representatives of the Commons make the *Third*, and this we call a Parliament.

This agrees with all political Constitutions in *Europe*, which come from the same *Gothick* Original with *England*, and are founded upon the same Model, as for Instance :

The Empire of *Germany* is divided into Three Estates, of which the Emperor is Sovereign, the First of which Estates is composed of the Spiritual Electors, together with the Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, &c. The Second is of Temporal Electors, Dukes, Marquesses, &c. and the rest of the Nobility : The Third is of the imperial Cities of which are about threescore, which are represented at the general Diets by such Commissioners as they appoint for themselves.

There are likewise three Estates in *France*, the Clergy, Nobility and Commons ; and out of these three are chosen certain Commissioners for each Estate as often as the King shall require their Meeting ; and these, when met, do make that which they call an *Assembly of the Estates*, much like our *English* Parliament.

*Spain* is also divided into three Estates, consisting of the Clergy, Nobility, and the Commissioners of the Provinces, and most ancient Cities, and their Meeting is called *Cortez*, (*i. e.*) the chief or great Court.

The same Division is therein *Hungary*, *Sweden*, and *Denmark* ; and it seems very strange that the Lords Spiritual and Temporal should make but one Estate