

gulated the conduct of domestic life anew ; but Mirabeau meditated to attain a more certain and a more glorious reputation, by a revolution in politics, that was to unite the celebrity of his own name, with the freedom and the happiness of his native country. Convinced that every thing in the government of France stood in need of reform ; possessed of the talent to detect abuses, the courage to proclaim, and, above all, the genius to remedy them ; he beheld France on the crisis of her fate, and saw, that as the power of the monarch had become enfeebled by the prevailing philosophy of the times, nothing but a bold and determined man was wanting to strike off the fetters from the nation.

There were few questions of importance in which he either did not determine, or at least facilitate the decision. His mind, enlightened by sudden gleams of intelligence, darted new and unexpected light, in the midst of those agitations and convulsions with which a popular assembly is often embarrassed and confounded ; and while he flashed conviction on the friends of the constitution, and terror on its enemies, his ideas had the peculiar advantage of being developed by a voice so strong, so clear, and so sonorous, that it pervaded every part of the assembly. Often, indeed, when he had no time for premeditation, and when no ruling passion gave energy to his eloquence, his ideas and his expressions flowed slowly ; but this proceeded solely from his endeavours to collect his thoughts on the subject ; which, when he had once achieved, his eyes seemed to flash with the fury of genius, and his words to be impelled by the ardour of inspiration !

Although an enemy to absolute power, M. de Mirabeau is thought to have possessed an attachment to the kingly government : he either imagined that his countrymen were too fickle, luxurious, and inconstant, to require the hardy virtues of a republic, or that a large society is best governed by the authority of a limited monarch. While he was, therefore, sedulous to prevent the power of the sovereign from oppressing the people, he yet thought it necessary to entrust the first magistrate with as much energy, as would enable him to act for the prosperity of the society and the good of the people. With the Jacobins, who had uniformly supported him, he quarrelled, because he thought them less zealous for the welfare of their country than the gratification of their own personal resentments ; and with his

friends, Messieurs de Barnave and Lameth, he had an open rupture, because he imagined that there was more of faction than of liberty in their declamations.

His funeral was conducted with a splendour, such as never had been seen from the days of Pharamond and the very foundation of the monarchy. His ashes rest, at present, in the same tomb with the immortal Descartes ; and they will be soon placed in the new church of St. Genevieve, with those of the other great men to whom France has decreed public honours ; so that, while a free people offer up their homage to the Divinity, they will, at the same time, contemplate the monuments of their philosophers, their legislators, and their heroes !

The following is a correct list of the Works of M. de Mirabeau.

1. Essay on Despotism, 8vo.
2. Thoughts on Lettres de Cachet, 2 vol. 8vo.
3. Considerations on the Order of Cincinnati.
4. Doubts concerning the Liberty of Scheldt, 8vo.
5. Letter to the Emperor Joseph II, on his Regulations concerning Emigration, 8vo.
6. An Essay on the Caisse d'Escompte, 8vo.
7. Disquisition on the Bank of St. Charles, 8vo.
8. A Pamphlet on the Water works of Paris, 8vo.
9. Letter to Frederick William II, King of Prussia, on the Day of his Elevation to the Throne, 8vo. pamphlet.
10. Impeachment of the Stock Jobbers of Paris, 8vo. pamphlet.
11. Secret History of the Court of Berlin, 2 vol. 8vo.
12. Letter on the Administration of M. Neckar, 8vo. pamphlet.
13. Correspondence with M. Cerutti, 8vo. pamphlet.
14. A Letter to the Dutch on the Stadtholdership, 8vo.
15. Observations on the Bicestre, 8vo. pamphlet.
16. Counsels to a young Prince on his Education, 8vo. pamphlet.
17. The Prussian Monarchy under Frederick the Great, 4 vol. 4to. and 8 vol. 8vo.
18. Letters to his Constituents in the *Courier de Provence*, 5 vol. 8 vo. Of these, the first twenty only are written by M. de Mirabeau.