

per to suggest, in proportion to the services he had rendered them.

Such was, by a regular progress of human Society, the source of Political Power: such the Origin of every known system of Government. Any formal discussion concerning the relative advantages or disadvantages of particular forms of Government, a detail of the Laws of any one Country, or its peculiar institutions, does not properly come within the present question.

The mutual security of nations, when any one Prince or Commonwealth, had by a successful war, or Usurpation of Territory so far increased in strength, as to threaten the surrounding Powers, gave rise to a Policy pointedly attended to for some Centuries back, the Balance of Power. This policy formed the basis of every treaty, and was the cause of many bloody wars in Europe during the period of three hundred years. History "down to the treaty of Amiens," furnishes us but two examples of its having been departed from by Great-Britain.

The first, was the public treaty between Cromwell and Cardinal Mazarin bearing date the third of November, 1655,† in which were several articles providing for a Naval assistance to France both in the Mediterranean and before Dunkirk. This is the first instance to be found of England assisting the strongest Prince against the weaker; so that Cromwell laid the foundation stone of that immense fabric which France has been able to erect.

(To be continued.)

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

It now appears evident that Malta is the principal object of the

Negotiations carried on between His Majesty's Government and that of the French Republic. The latter, has published it, in an indirect manner, to all Europe; and it has endeavoured to insinuate that Great-Britain has been guilty of an infraction of the Treaty of Amiens by retaining that Island. The good faith of the British Government, is too well established to require such means of justification; they may be necessary to the Government of a man who was bound by allegiance as well as gratitude to sacrifice his life in defence of a Sovereign to the death of whom he became accessory and whose throne he now occupies. It may not however be amiss, for the satisfaction of the admirers of that man, to state what relates to Malta in a manner adapted to the capacity of their understandings: Malta was agreed to be restored to the order of St. John of Jerusalem, *on condition* of its entire independance; the means by which the fulfillment of that condition could be secured to Great Britain, was the guarantee of Powers independant of France; these Powers named in the Treaty, were Russia and Prussia: now neither of them have as yet consented to the guarantee. Great-Britain has, therefore been under the necessity, hitherto, to retain Malta, in order to fulfill the Treaty of Amiens whenever there is sufficient assurance, conformable to that Treaty, that the condition on which she agreed to give it up, will be fulfilled.

Such is the true state of the case as it concerns Malta. It is another question, which we believe has been already decided in the affirmative by the greatest Statesmen; whether the general conduct of France, since the ratification of the Treaty of Amiens, has not been such as to justify the re-

† See Martens' Recueil des principaux traités.