

A. D.
1757.

Three fac-
tions in the
state.

There were three factions now formed amongst the great men of the nation: Of which it will be necessary to observe, That one of them, which had the greatest parliamentary interest, and the greatest interest also with the monied people, consisted of such as had grown into place and power under the old ministry; were greatly respected by the King; for their long and adulating services and compliances; but weak in some material points; and not at all popular.—Another faction, whose parliamentary strength was much inferior to the former, had the character of better abilities, and an interest at one court able to balance that of the old ministry, by means of a then powerful connection; yet they were more unpopular; and that very powerful connection made them much less respected at another court; and still worse with the generality of the people; whose jealousies had been industriously raised and increased by sarcastical hints and whispers. A third faction formed itself, without the aid of parliamentary, or court influence; almost entirely upon the popularity of their leader, whose abilities recommended him to their esteem, who had no other views than a redress of grievances. His eloquence and disinterestedness could not be denied by his enemies: and the nation placed their whole dependance upon his wisdom, integrity and love for his country.

These factions differed extremely in regard to power: though the two former were near agreed in the general scheme of their politics. They looked upon the increase of power in France, as
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