

awaited the wounded and worn out; but barren honours, short-lived ovations, and allotments of lands in foreign conquests. Should then the French complain of their service? Is there any thing in the conscription so rigorous, so lasting, so ungrateful?

But if by comparison with the similar regulations of ancient and of modern powers, we see reasons for admiring the conscription, what must be our sentiments of admiration and gratitude, when we behold its effects! If your countryman, the boding Burke, could see in France, before the revolution, so much to awe and command his transcendant imagination,*

* Indeed, when I consider the face of the kingdom of France; the multitude and opulence of her cities; the useful magnificence of her spacious high roads and bridges; the opportunity of her artificial canals and navigations opening the conveniences of maritime communication through a solid continent of so immense an extent; when I turn my eyes to the stupendous works of her ports and harbours, and to her whole naval apparatus, whether for war or trade; when I bring before my view the number of her fortifications, constructed with so bold and masterly a skill, and made and maintained at so prodigious a charge, presenting an armed front and impenetrable barrier to her enemies on every side; when I recollect how very small a part of that extensive region is without cultivation, and to what complete perfection the culture of many of the best productions of the earth have been brought in France; when I reflect on the excellence of her manufactures and fabrics, second to none but ours, and in some particulars not second; when I contemplate the grand foundations of charity, public and private; when I survey the state of all the arts that beautify and polish life; when I reckon the men she has bred for extending her fame in war, her able statesmen, the multitude of her profound lawyers and theologians, her philosophers, her critics, her historians