

*rathon* and *Platea*: *Pericles* was the Man who broke the Balance of Power, and like *Henry* the Seventh of *England*, destroyed the Influence of the Nobility by a more equal Division of Wealth and Preferment. Their Dominions were large enough to have opposed *Philip*, and their Revenues were proportionable: Being possessed of a flourishing Kingdom by Right, and enjoying *Euboea* by Conquest, their Influence must necessarily be extensive; but their chief Dependance was on their foreign Colonies, which supplied them with the Necessaries of Life; as *England* is from the *American* Plantations. Notwithstanding all these Advantages the People were degenerate; they were vain and indolent; Vices which introduced Corruption by their natural Tendency, and exposed them not only to the open, but the secret Attacks of every Invader. The public Offices were distributed by Cabal and Interest; these were the Authors of Party-Zeal and Prejudice; and these again extended the Influence of Corruption. Their former Prosperity had opened the Way to Pleasure; Sensuality was the next Step, and an indolent Supineness was the Consequence. Unwilling to fight, even for their own Liberty,