POLITICAL ESSAY ON THE [BOOK III.

the governments and intendancies are ten times more extensive.

In France, the heads of departments, the prefects, watch over the wants of a population which rarely exceeds 450,000 souls, and which on an average we may estimate at 300,000. The governments into which the Russian empire is divided, as well as the Mexican intendancies, comprehend, notwithstanding their very different states of civilization, a greater number of inhabitants. The following table will show the disproportion of population among the territorial divisions of New Spain. It begins with the most populous intendancy, and ends with the one most thinly inhabited.

Intendancy of Mexico, 1,511,800 inhabitants.

Puebla, 813,300 Guadalaxara, 630,500 Oaxaca, 534,800 Guanaxuato, 517,300 Valladolid, 476,400 Merida, 465,700 San Luis Potosi, 331,900 Durango, 159,700 Vera Cruz, 156,000 Zacatecas, 153,000 Sonora, 121,400 a

p

t

ρ

1

It is in comparing together the tables of the population of the twelve intendancies, and the ex-

284