

FOREIGN POLITICS.

HAVING thus examined the present condition of this Country with respect to those points which are of most importance to its internal prosperity, it remains only to examine its relative situation, with respect to the other powers of Europe.

The importance of this part of our situation to the general interests of the empire, and even to our domestic security, is such as no man can be ignorant of. It is in vain under the existing circumstances of Europe, to suppose that this country can remain an unconcerned spectator of events which materially alter the situation of its neighbours, and which might in that case by our negligence afford to our rivals the means of destroying all the sources of that prosperity which has so long been an object of jealousy to them. It is equally true on the other hand, that our situation affords us the advantage of not being involved in every trifling and unimportant difference which may arise upon the Continent. The wisdom of the government of this country consists in observing a proper medium between these two extremes; and in proportion as this point has

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