[15]

government must at present appear irreproachable and unblamable.

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The confiderer. therefore, may figure away to eternity upon his comparative and political arithmetic; but if the facts upon which his data are founded have no longer existence, which is the case, to what does his reasoning tend, but to seduce weak minds. and to break that unanimity, which at present forms the pride, the glory, and strength of the British empire? Were the considerer to bring a million of instances of what France has done, or what Britain has suffered in former times, cui bono? What can it avail him, if those instances are not applicable to the present juncture? and applicable they cannot be, unless he can, from history, produce a fimilarity of circumstances. The confiderer, with a true polemic spirit, supposes two powers of Germany at war; "if France, fays he, to keep up the contest, should take the weaker fide, and add to the power whose force is eight, so as to be superior to ten, the evil is not lessened, but made greater. Should England be fo unfortunate as to join in the contest, and fend its land forces of fifty into the war, and France thereupon fend a force of eighty, the party affifted by Enggland