

should know, that he is not the great Commander*.

But whatever may be the opinion respecting him, we have certainly derived lights from this enquiry to guide us in our future attempts. If the system of war which he pursued be justified as a general system; still it will be admitted that the opposite one would have proved more successful in our particular instance (y); and of course we may expect to see it adopted in future. It has convinced us, that the contest is not vain, nor the pursuit impracticable; and that if favourable circumstances have not been improved; if war has been unskilfully carried on; if peace has been injudiciously negotiated; we have suffered through our "folly, not our fate," and we may hope that the errors of our conduct are not irreparable.

With regard to general Burgoyne, it is not yet time to enquire into his conduct. The day must come when that will be discussed in a proper place. If every Commander, who, in any manner what-

* Perhaps his character may be summed up in a few words, by applying to him what Montesquieu says of Charles the Twelfth of Sweden, *Sir William Howe is not an Alexander the Great; but he would have made a good soldier under Alexander.*

(y) It appears from General Robertson's evidence, that if the grenadiers had not been called off by the General they would have stormed the lines at Brooklyn; and if the attack had been made, they must have forced them, as Putnam could not collect three hundred out of all the troops to stand to their arms.