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## POLITICAL BALANCE.

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**A**LTHOUGH it might perhaps be injudicious to enforce in Great Britain that Grecian law, which inflicted punishment on those who were so indifferent to the interests of their country as to take no part in her divisions; it is however of the very essence of a free Government, that the citizens of it should be awake and attentive to the situation of the state; and that they should examine the conduct, compare the characters, and if possible penetrate the designs of the several parties of which it is composed.

This employment of their thoughts is a manly and an useful one; it is to liberty what consciousness is to the mind, the act in which she most sensibly perceives her own existence and powers.

It has that utility in the political, which the elastic power of the air has in the natural system; if it be constantly exercised, it preserves the whole mass untainted, and most effectually prevents or checks the weak, or corrupt tendencies of the several parts.

If ever this attention was particularly required, it is now. The state is divided into two parties,