

ing; and in that way, it may give us some idea, of the amount of the national wealth.

The total number of inhabitants of the United Kingdom, cannot be reckoned at less, than *seven* millions, of which, Scotland contains between 1,300,000 and 1,400,000, and England between 5,600,000 and 5,700,000. This number of persons, are annually fed, lodged and clothed, from a fund existing in the country. According to the manner of living of the people, we cannot reckon, that, one with another, the expence of the maintenance of each, amounts to a less sum, than 7 *l.* 10 *s.* *per ann.* or about 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* *per day*, including food, clothes, fire, candles, soap, and lodging. This would require a revenue of *fifty-two millions and a half per annum*, and the stock or fund, existing somewhere, from whence this revenue must arise, reckoning it to produce 5 *per cent.*, would amount, at twenty years purchase, to *one thousand and fifty millions*.

This is not the most unexceptionable mode, of forming the calculation, of national wealth; but if the result of that computation be lower than the truth, and that the public debt, as lately increased, should be reckoned to amount at present to 160 millions, besides the long and other annuities, which will extinguish of themselves, it will follow, as a consequence, that our debt amounts, to about *one-sixth* part of the total wealth of the nation; and therefore, in order to pay it entirely off, if such an idea should ever be entertained, it would be necessary, that every person possessed of 100 *l.* property, should pay 16 *l.* as his share of