

Both islands would, long before this time, have advanced to a state of cultivation, not inferior to that of China. The productions of the soil, and the number of inhabitants, might have exceeded, by tenfold, their present amount. Public roads, canals, bridges, and buildings of every description, must have multiplied far beyond what our most sanguine wishes are capable of conceiving. A short review of the destruction committed by foreign wars within the last hundred years of our history, can hardly fail to amuse, and may perhaps instruct the reader.

CHAP. IV.

Facilis est descensus Averni,

VIRG.

'Tis easy into hell to fall;
But to get out again is all.

“THE ground of the first war,” says Dr. Swift, “after the Revolution, as to the part we had in it, was to make France acknowledge the late king, and to recover *Hudson's Bay*. But during that whole war the sea was almost entirely neglected, and the greatest part of six millions, *annually*, employed to enlarge the frontier of the Dutch. For the king was a general, but not an admiral; and although king of England, was a native of Holland. “After ten years of fighting, to little purpose, after the loss of above *an hundred thousand men*, and “a debt remaining of *twenty millions*, we at length “hearkened to the terms of peace, which was con-