

balls, which their majesties frequently gave for 1804.
the amusement of their young favourites. On
one occasion, the King being on the pier-head,
about to embark in the royal yacht upon one of
his sailing trips, and having the child in his arms,
he turned round to Mr. Pitt, who was in attendance
at his elbow, having probably hurried down from
London for an audience on important business, and
exclaimed, "Is not this a fine boy, Pitt? Fine
boy, isn't he? Take him in your arms, Pitt; take
him in your arms: charming child, isn't he?" Then
suited the action to the word, he made the stiff
and solemn premier, weighed down as he seemed
to be with cares of state, dandle and kiss the pretty
boy, and carry him some minutes in his arms,
albeit strange and unused to such a burden. The
circumstance, though trivial, had so comical an
effect, from the awkwardness and apparent re-
luctance with which the formal minister performed
his compelled part of nurse, as to make an im-
pression on the writer, who stood by, though but
seven years old himself, which time has never
effaced. Pitt, although no doubt fretted by his
master's childish fancy, which exposed him to the
ill-suppressed titter of the circle around, including
several of the younger branches of the royal
family, to whom the scene afforded great amuse-
ment, put the best countenance he could on the
matter, but little thought, no doubt, that the infant
he was required to nurse would, at no very distant
time, have the offer of the same high official post