

of the house of commons ; nor can the house of commons, after such an exertion, be called the property of the crown. On the other hand, we have sufficient proof that, whilst that body continues in its present state, there is not enough of the democratic principle to obstruct the ordinary course of the executive power, or to overturn that consideration which belongs to property and personal importance, and gives consistence and solidity to the system.

*A.* Your arguments convince me how little theory is to be depended upon in matters of government ; and that nothing but experience can pronounce upon the effect of innovation. I see plainly the rashness of endeavouring to reduce your present establishment to speculative principles. Whatever reformations may be safely undertaken to ameliorate your constitution must require not only sagacity, but experience and a long