

the Considerations is mistaken in his first principles. The battles of Cressy, Poictiers, and Agincourt, were gained by Englishmen, and Englishmen alone : the battle of Minden, which, every thing considered, was more glorious than all the three, was gained by Britons, with a more confessed superiority against them, than there was against the son of Edward the Third, or the father of Henry the Sixth.

There is undoubtedly a principle of political, as well as of commercial, arithmetic ; but the data of the former are extremely hard to be settled. The considerer goes to work in the Cheapside way ; he posts his books, he strikes his balance, but he does not give weight for inches, though he brings forth a most plausible account. I will venture to say that history cannot produce a period of glory that is not liable to exception, if those mechanical calculations are to take place. " From the time, says the considerer, when the whole of France was united to the crown, and the liberties of the states and nobility absolutely subjected to its power, the kingdom of France has been, in the extent of its country, the number of its inhabitants, and the greatness of its revenue, superior to Britain." I admit that France, in the extent of its

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country,