

While I am upon this head, which I have touched with the utmost reluctance, I am sorry that our considerer's calculation of our expence during king William and queen Anne's wars, obliges me to repeat an observation I have made before ; that it is a gross imposition upon the sense of the public, to array the sums of those times against the present ; because the intrinsic value of money in Great-Britain is now diminished. The interest which money bears in a state, a commercial one I mean, may be called the pulse, which indicates the health or indisposition of the body-politic. The government in those times gave for money, six or seven, nay sometimes more, per cent. At this time they give at most three and a half. I shall not, from this, conclude, that Great-Britain has, at present, double the money in specie, that she had under king William, or queen Anne ; but I will venture to say, however paradoxical it may appear, she is at this time doubly able to bear the expences.

“ To talk, says the considerer, (page 114) of forming a connexion with that, which is in itself unconnected, is a contradiction in terms.”