

taught to consider as their proper Business, and to make an implicate Obedience to the Orders of their superior Officer, the first Principle of their Religion. The Danger of such a Military Force hath been taken Notice of before; I shall only observe now, that there are two Circumstances attending it here, which render it more inconvenient and dangerous in this, than in any other Country whatever. The one regards the common Soldiers, who are listed, not as in *France* and other Places for six Years, after which they may demand their Dismission, and if their Captain refuses it, may yet quit the Service, but for the Term of their Lives; so that seeing themselves subjected for ever to arbitrary Orders, and in that Respect a sort of Slaves, without any Prospect of Redemption, they are naturally tempted to look with Envy on the Freedom of all about them, and inclined to reduce their Countrymen to a like Condition with themselves. As six Years Time is more than sufficient to make any Soldier perfect in Discipline, and as the more there are instructed in the Art of War, the better will the Nation be enabled to make Head against a Foreign Enemy: it is not easy, if that be the only view in keeping a Standing-Army, to conceive why Soldiers, who are weary of an idle Life, should not have, after six Years Service, the same Liberty of quitting it here, as they are indulged in *France*, nor why any Motion for such an Indulgence should be rejected. The other relates to the Officers, who though Members of a *Corps*, maintained by the Money of the Nation, and ever deemed incompatible with its Liberties, are yet allowed to sit in the House of Commons. On this Subject I remember to have heard the late Earl of *Anglesea*, relate an Observation of his Father-in-law, the late Lord *Haversham*, who comparing the Politics of *Oliver's* Days with those of later Times,

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