

tion relative to Sir Robert, and taken a place under his ministry, the condition on which the legacy was given in the will, was annihilated by parliamentary power; you were thereby enabled to retain the money, and the other advantages of the dutchess's donation, and enjoy your place also.

It is not to be doubted but the parliament has a power of changing the intention of any one's will: but it may be doubted whether a man of honour or fidelity can conscientiously receive ten thousand pounds, and violate the obligation for which it was given. Should you not, either in obedience to the conditions on which you accepted it, have remained unplaced? or, in obedience to your new conversion, have returned the money when you accepted the place? on the contrary, you preserved the rewards of patriotism, and enjoyed the income of a placeman: and your oratoric larum, which had rung so sonorously against Sir Robert, now sounded with no less vehemence in his favour; for it is of most singular construction, and rings in drawing up as well as in running down. This change of conduct threw you into great contempt in the opinion of all who had expected that some advantage might be derived to the nation from your perseverance in pursuing the minister.