

Sully, began his discourse to his council by drawing a very natural representation of the perplexing situation he was in. "Irreconcilable enmities in the nobility of the kingdom, hatred amongst themselves, and rage against him, mutiny and disobedience in all minds, treachery within, violence without." "The methods" continues the same great minister, this great prince took, to render all the intrigues of those who endeavoured to disturb his government and thwart his purposes, ineffectual, were, to apply himself, with his accustomed attention and assiduity, to the affairs both within and without his kingdom, and to fill the intendencies, and other public offices, with such men only as were distinguished for their merit, their probity, and zeal for his service. "He permitted me," says he, "to be continually laying before him the state of his affairs, informing him of the use and destination of his money; and I carried my solicitude for order and oeconomy so far, as to reproach him with even the smallest needless expence; but I amassed him treasure, I filled his magazines, and pointed out to him the means of rendering himself formidable to all Europe." The confidence he reposed in the duke of Sully, and the firmness with which he supported him against the calumnies and intrigues of those