

elections, " that not a shilling should go out of the treasury to influence any man," because we cannot *that* way account for any of it. But that fact, supposing it to be one, though it may be doubted, was intended to wound the duke of Newcastle's interest : to prevent his opposing " the zealous, fond, believing, obsequious, " confiding, supporting, acquiescing, bearing, and forbearing, *country gentlemen.*" How well this *free* parliament, as it is called, has agreed with the sense of their constituents, the *inadequate peace* and *odious excise* sufficiently declare. Yet we have seen in these days of *virtue, wisdom* and *economy*, such a strange alteration among men, such a sudden revival of obsolete places, such an amazing *increase* of dependents, such a munificent distribution of pensions, augmentation of salaries and other favours, that the inference is natural ; if the interest of our country *is sold*, what signifies the difference, whether the electors or elected *are bought* ? The Whigs, in the most corrupt times of their administration, when there was every thing to fear from the restless spirits of the Tories and Scottish Jacobites, never went such lengths as to be able to produce such a list of placemen and pensioners as the present ministry can. When the vigorous and continued efforts of the Tories and Scottish Jacobites seemed to bid fair for enslaving *this* country, there was then some very good reason for dealing out places and pensions to form a counterpoise to their power : but now, when not the least spark of disaffection appears in the land, not even among the Scots *at present*, when every subject almost adores his sovereign, to INCREASE those placemen and pensioners beyond what they were ever known in former times, shews, that the measures were such, as there was reason to
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