

8 STATE OF THE NATION.

taxes upon the people of England †. While the British seamen were consuming, on board our men of war and privateers, foreign ships and foreign seamen were employed in the transportation of our merchandize, and the carrying trade, so great a source of wealth and marine, was entirely engrossed by the neutral nations. The number of British ships annually arriving in our ports was reduced 1756 sail, containing 92,559 tons, on a medium of the six years of war, compared with the six years of peace preceding it; and the number of foreign ships had increased 863 sail, containing 85,678 tons *. The ships remaining

† Vide Page 11.

* Account of British and foreign shipping arriving in the ports of Great Britain, from the year 1749, to 1754 inclusive.

B R I T I S H.

	Ships	Tons.
1749	5,368	460,607
1750	5,558	486,823
1751	5,563	502,721
1752	5,759	508,755
1753	5,986	551,230
1754	5,769	494,772
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British ships - - - - -	34,003	Tons 3,004,908
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Medium of 6 years peace	5,667	500,818

F O R E I G N.