

T H E
PLEA of the COLONIES, &c.

To LORD M-----D.

My Lord,

WHILE you were pleas'd to withdraw yourself from the cabinet, and sit in silence behind the curtain, securely to enjoy the conscious pleasure of guiding the political machine, and giving birth to measures that you did not chuse publicly to adopt, whatever we might think of your Lordship's influence, or that of your noble countrymen and friends, we were not fully at liberty to express our sentiments upon it. It was generally believed that the noble Lord who presides in the Treasury, and his kinsman, the late American secretary, were *not* principals in devising the American war. They held a language, both in public and in private, that might tend to secure them from the charge. They were sometimes observed to unsay, or explain to nothing, what they had said but yesterday ; there was such a want of consistence among some of their actions, there was