

of Cressy, Poitiers, and Agincourt. But from the time when the whole of France was united to the crown, and the liberties of the States and nobility absolutely subjected to its power, the kingdom of France has been, in the extent of its country, the number of its inhabitants, and the greatness of its revenue, superior to Britain. The maps will teach us the first of these ; all the writers on political arithmetic agree in the second ; and the third we have learned the last winter from a gentleman, who, by being the master of our own finances, may be allowed to have the best knowledge of those of other countries : and whose argument did not at all dispose him to magnify the French Revenue.

France is stronger at land, not only than England, but than any other power in Europe. The Empire of Germany in the extent of its country, and the number of its inhabitants may be equal, if not superior, to France ; but the division of it into a great number of separate independent States, while France has its whole force united under one absolute monarch, renders Germany greatly inferior to France. Hence it is, that France has for a century past been formidable to the rest of Europe ; and has twice been able to support a long war against the united alliance of the whole.

Whenever any power in Europe shall have grown up to a degree of strength, much greater than that