

Extent of the Abilities, and the Number of Resources still left to this Country : The Stocks then rose ; and they would have risen to a much greater Height than they are at now, if the same Measures had been pursued ; but a different System has check'd the Progress natural to them in Times of Peace ; and so long as that System prevails, we can pretend neither to an Independency of Trade, nor a Permanency of Power. Drooping Credit, and Revenue continually crumbling away, in a Season of perfect Tranquility, are alarming Circumstances to a commercial People : And frustrate the Provision necessary to be made against that Day, when we shall be called upon to maintain the Ascendancy we have acquired in *Europe* : It will not remain with us long, our Trade cannot be protected, our Colonies cannot be preserved, our very Existence cannot be secured, if the Finances of the Kingdom be ruined : In vain may we discipline Armies, build Fleets, or form Alliances, while the Means to make use of them are wanting ; and by a steady and judicious Management of the Revenue, and by that alone, can those Means be procured. We have seen how much may be gained in a short Time by such Management ; we have seen how much may be lost in less Time by a contrary Conduct : Let us judge then of the Measures by their Effects : And of the Ministers by their Measures : The Decision is important ; For the State of the Nation depends on the System which is chosen for the Administration of the Finances.

F I N I S.

E R R A T A.

Page 24, Line 26, after *to* insert *be*.

54. 16, after *much* dele *the*.

50. 9, for *brought* read *bought*.

57. 7, for *Composition* read *Compensation*.

71. 4, for *then* read *than*.

95, Column last, Line 2, for *4d.* read *4s.*

————— Line 3, for *3d.* read *3s.*