

a popular part, and will render their reputation immortal, by establishing the perfect freedom of the ocean, to which all countries have a right, and are interested in accomplishing. The sea is the world's highway ; and he who arrogates a prerogative over it, transgresses the right, and justly brings on himself the chastisement of nations.

PERHAPS it might be of some service to the future tranquillity of mankind, were an article introduced into the next general peace, that no one nation should, in time of peace, exceed a certain number of ships of war. Something of this kind seems necessary ; for, according to the present fashion, half the world will get upon the water, and there appears no end to the extent to which navies may be carried. Another reason is, that navies add nothing to the manners or morals of a people. The sequestered life which attends the service, prevents the opportunities of society, and is too apt to occasion a coarseness of ideas and language, and that more in ships of war than in commercial employ ; because in the latter they mix more with the world, and are nearer related to it. I mention this remark as a general one, and not applied to any one country more than another.

BRITAIN has now had the trial of above seven years, with an expence of nearly an hundred million pounds sterling ; and every month in which she delays to conclude a peace, costs her another million sterling, over and above her ordinary expences of government, which are a million more ; so that her total *monthly* expence is

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