

cause he wished to prepare the nation for the parliamentary settlement * which may take place on the submission of the colonies, both by suggesting to the legislature itself all the information which can be derived from the purest and most satisfactory precedents of ancient history, and by attempting to reconcile the minds of the people in general to that settlement, when they shall find it, perhaps, supported by the policy of those ages which enjoyed the most perfect civil liberty.

In pursuing his inquiries, the writer has not satisfied himself with any secondary authorities. He has had recourse to the originals themselves ; and, that every reader, who chuses to take the trouble, may be satisfied of his integrity and candour, he has been always careful to refer to the sources from which he derived his information. The multiplicity of ancient authors, whose names appear on the margin, may give an air of pedantry to the performance ; but this circumstance will be of small importance, if it shall add weight and conviction.

CHAP.

* The public seems to expect such a settlement. The proclamation of the Commissioners in America offers a revival of the exceptionable acts of parliament : And the capital publications on the side of government give hints of representation.