

rank and authority, may yet prove effectual to check that enormous degeneracy of manners, which, more than the combination of the most powerful enemies, threatens the downfall of the British empire.

A period approaches, late may it be 'ere it arrives, when the history of the present reign shall be numbered amongst the records of ages that are past. The clamours of faction, the cavils of discontent, the rage of disappointed ambition shall be heard no more. The name of George the Third shall be written in the fair registers of fame, and stand high in the list of virtuous Princes. Posterity shall blush for the ingratitude of their fathers, and lament that misconstruction and malice, which poisoned the minds of the people, and interrupted the repose of him, who ought to have been among the happiest as well as best of Princes.

the influence of the crown is not so mighty as was represented by gentlemen in opposition upon the sixth of April. Or at any rate, without referring these events to the moderation of the Prince, or running up to the sources and motives from which they sprang, considered merely as facts, do they not exhibit improvements of the constitution, and additional securities for the liberty of the subject?

Amongst the important acquisitions of liberty during this reign, I might have recognised the repeal of the penal statute concerning Roman Catholics; but upon this subject, alas! we are reminded of our shame as well as our honour, and that elevation with which the liberal mind contemplates the extension of liberty, and the enlargement of the legislature, are damped by that more than savage opposition, with which the people have resisted a measure recommended by the first dictates of humanity and justice. I am happy to have lived in an age, and under a government so propitious to toleration; but I blush for human nature, and am humbled in the dust, when conscious of so near a connection with those who, in the eighteenth century, were capable of cherishing an idea of persecution, or cruelty, to any of my fellow creatures.

F I N I S.