

administration, to the neglect of other public concerns, which required their attention, were dissolved on the twenty-fifth of March, 1784; an event which gave general satisfaction to the whole kingdom, who eagerly took this opportunity of shewing their sentiments on the late transactions, by their marked rejection of those who had supported the measures of the late ministry.

The new Parliament met on the eighteenth of May following, and the people waited with a most anxious suspense the result of their deliberations. Let us here take a view of the situation in which they found the country. The picture is gloomy; but in justice to those who have delivered us out of that situation we ought not to forget it.

The party spirit which had been fomented during the opposition to Lord North's government, the frequent changes which had happened since that period, and the struggles with which they had been attended, had so unsettled the minds of men, that the country had been in one continual ferment, which had not yet even begun to subside; and, as people still looked forward to fresh changes, no termination could yet be expected to such an evil. The remedy
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