

Mr. Pope was pretty near the mark when he concluded, that is best which is best administered. In my humble opinion, untill men are angels, there is but little better or worse in any of them: the honest man is generally a weak man in the business of the world, and the cunning man always a thief. If the prince happens to be a man very knowing, he usually chuses a good honest simple person for his minister, as his use is only to do as he is bid, and to stand between him and the people; and if a good honest simple prince, the cunning statesman steps in and unguards him, and instead of being so stationed himself, sets the prince between him and the people.

For my part, it appears to me clearly, the people of Great Britain, &c. are less plundered than most other nations; as little as ministers from time to time can possibly afford; and when things are carried a good deal farther than some people like, it must be considered, that altho' the eagle sits on the rock and is seemingly adored, yet it is the cormorants that batten on the moor, and devour most of the provender.

Commonwealths are usually more rapacious than even absolute monarchies; at

E

least,