

6 STATE OF THE NATION.

ments. The spirit of the times animated her soldiery to atchieve what, in other circumstances, it would have been deemed madness to attempt, and the same zeal caught the frozen breasts of the wealthy in foreign countries, as well as in her own ; banished their cautious scruples, and incited them to render her their money upon parliamentary faith, without enquiring into the validity of the funds assigned them for their security. There could, therefore, be no want of money to continue the war, and money, it was not to be doubted, would procure men.

The power of France had sunk under the irresistible force of Great-Britain : her marine graced the English ports, her colonies had put themselves into our hands, and her trade was confined to the continent of Europe : the misfortunes of France had deprived her of credit ; foreigners would not trust her with their money, and the riches of her own subjects were not inexhaustible. Of the specie she remitted to Germany to pay her army, but little returned to her again ; for she had not merchandize sufficient to purchase it, nor credit to borrow it. She had already seized upon the annuities due for former loans to her creditors ; and suffered the bills, drawn by the commanders of her foreign dominions, to go back unpaid. The subsidies promised her by Spain were become precarious ; for the portal through which Spain
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