

their Defence to Foreigners, they naturally become effeminate and cowardly, unwilling and unable to protect themselves from their more avowed Enemies, or the Imposition and Tyranny of those whom they have hired to defend them. This Observation, as a general one, I allow to be extremely just. Those who have the Sword in their Hand, and not those who have the Purse, are in Effect the Masters; and those who pay others to fight their Battles, out of Cowardice, will in the End have nothing left to pay; because no Defence is solid, and to be relied on, but that which comes from the proper Strength of a Nation itself. I do not controvert the general Principle; but I positively deny the Fact as charged upon us; we have not trusted to foreign Defence, nor to mercenary Forces. Let those who reproach us with this pusillanimous Conduct look over the Votes of this Session of Parliament. They will find, that for the present Year we have thirty-four thousand *British* Soldiers on Foot in *Great Britain*; we have in *Ireland* twelve thousand at least, all *British* too; we have ten thousand in the Plantations, *Gibraltar* and *Minorca*, besides the Troops raised in the Colonies; we have ten thousand Marines, and forty thousand *British* Seamen in our Navy. We have then upwards of an hundred thousand *British* Subjects in Arms, in the different Parts of our military Establishment. How then can we suffer the prostitute Impudence of some Writers, who