

where it is not possible that subjects may be oppressed, not possible that Government may misuse its powers?

THIS, I say, is the amount, the *whole sum and substance of all* their grievances. For in taking a general review of the charges brought against his Majesty, and his Parliament, we may observe that there is a studied confusion in the arrangement of them. It may therefore be worth while to reduce them to the several distinct heads, under which I should have classed them at the first, had not the order of the Answer been necessarily prescribed by the order—or rather the disorder—of the Declaration.

THE first head consists of Acts of *Government*, charged as so many acts of *incroachment*, so many *usurpations* upon the present King and his Parliaments exclusively, which had been constantly exercised by his Predecessors and their Parliaments^a.

In all the articles comprised in this head, is there a single power alleged to have been exercised during the present reign, which had not been constantly exercised by preceding Kings, and preceding Parliaments? Read only the commission and instruction for the Council of Trade, drawn up in the 9th of King William III. addressed to Mr. *Locke*, and others^b. See there what

^a Under this head are comprised articles I. II. so far as they are true, III. VII. IX. so far as the last relates to the tenure of the Judges' offices. XI. XII. XIII. XIV. XVII. XVIII. so far as the last relates to the establishment of Courts of Admiralty in general, and the causes, the cognisance of which is attributed to them. XIX. XXII. so far as the latter relates to the Declaration of the power of Parliament to make laws for the Colonies binding in all cases whatsoever.

^b See Com. Journ. vol. xii. p. 70, 71, 72.

Arrangement of them under their different heads.

I.
Acts of Government charged as usurpations in the present reign which had been constantly exercised from the first establishment of the Colonies. All the Acts comprised in this head are the exercise of powers supposed to be constitutional, by the instructions given to the Commissioners of Trade in the reign of William III.

powers