

that a Princess capable of feeling so tenderly for the distressed of others,* and of expressing her feelings, in language so patriotic, so beautiful and pathetic must possess, in a very eminent degree, the virtues of the heart and understanding. This conviction of her merit, and this only, induced him to offer the amiable Princess his hand and throne. Nor have his just expectations been disappointed. The tender regard which he has at all times manifested for his affectionate consort, has been rewarded by the most sincere love and esteem. Marriage, producing a cordial union of hearts, becomes the bond of harmony and peace, and of the most refined and inviolable friendship; and such has our beloved Monarch always found it to be. The firm guardian of his consort's honour, faithful to the vows which he took at the holy altar, he gives a most valuable lesson to his people. Were they to indulge in the same love and affection, they would find, in the marriage state, a mutual communication of joys and sorrows, a fruitful source of solid felicity, instead of those jealousies, heart-burnings, and indifference which poison the peace and comfort of so many families.

And let not the dissipated, the giddy or the proud consider it a matter of small importance to give a faithful example in this the most interesting of all our relations; for, by this lesson, our affectionate king endeavours, as far as in him lies, to maintain the purity of morals in their source, for all the most valuable virtues begin at home. When

* See NOTE II.

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