

Even his recreations were those of Hezekiah, in cultivating the ground, and patronizing the fine arts; but before we direct your attention to these particulars, it appears necessary to premise :

That the false glare of military renown which fascinates so many of the present age, leaves very few capable of estimating the comparatively quiet and unostentatious life of our deceased king. He was not seen at the head of mighty armies surrounded by his generals, and spreading devastation and misery among the nations. Better acquainted with the duties which became the possessor of the British throne, instead of seeking to be a conqueror, he aspired to and attained the far more estimable title of Father of his People. The sceptre in his hand was not an emblem of terrific power, but of justice and mercy. Possessing a crown derived from the constitutional choice of his subjects, he was as careful of their rights and privileges as of his own. Believing that the good of his people was the true principle that ought to direct his government, he never lost sight of their happiness; and so far was he from being carried away by the vain pomp of military glory, that when, at the commencement of his reign, he found his kingdom engaged in a successful war, he had the wisdom and moderation to perceive that victory, however splendid, only increased the misery of his people. He therefore set bounds to his triumphs and concluded an honorable peace.

The effects of war are sickening to every reflecting mind:—not merely the slaughter of thousands in the field of battle, but the protracted sufferings of the wounded—the excruciating agonies of the dying—and the grief and wretchedness which the destruction of so many sons, husbands, and brothers, must occasion in society, exhibit still more forcibly the miseries of war. Alas! men do not reflect—they hear of the noble art of war—the generosity, the magnanimity, the courage, the fortitude and self-denial exhibited in the field—the devotion to one's country—the fascinating ardour of the young rushing into battle, and coveting with delight, the most terrible scenes of enterprise and danger—and these throw a brilliant covering over its heart-rending consequences, and make us insensible of its calamities. It becomes associated with the most generous and disinterested virtues; the guardian of our rights and honors; the restrainer of usurpers, and the promoter of justice. Its sorrows are rendered familiar, or