

on vain and idle schemes, on uselefs placemen, pensioners, and sinecures, to the encrease of corruption, and extension of ministerial power and influence. Hence a double evil accrues; in proportion as the natural strength of the kingdom is diminished, so does the progress of venality encrease, and tend to the diminution of our natural liberties.

In confirmation of the well grounded policy, which dictated the foregoing ordonnance, let us advert to the conduct of the government of this kingdom before corruption had become a system, and patronage had only conspicuous merit for its object.

“ HENRY VIII. it is recorded, gave every possible bounty to officers and seamen. He gave them proper appointments *becoming the wealth and sovereignty of the nation*; that they ought not *impoverish their private fortunes when abroad*; to *maintain their credit, and support the honour of the British flag.*

“ QUEEN ELIZABETH, when she saw her crown, and the Protestant religion established, by the prowess of her *naval* power, gave an instance of magnanimity and gratitude worthy of so great a character. She granted NINE THOUSAND A-YEAR, OUT OF HER OWN REVENUE, which at that time was a very large sum, and more than adequate to what would, at this period,