

berty, they employed mercenary Troops in their foreign Wars ; but with so bad Success, that their Reputation was greatly sunk in the Opinion of their Allies.

THE better Part was sensible of this Deficiency, and their Eloquence brought the People by degrees to a Sense of their Danger ; they found the Designs of *Philip* to be such as tended to the Subversion of Liberty ; they saw the Necessity of preserving a political Balance, not to permit the Arms of one to acquire a Dominion, which would render the whole obnoxious to his Invasion. Such was the Opinion of the wisest Counsellors of *Athens* ; a Maxim confirmed by Experience, and applicable as much to the present Times as to the ancient System of *Greece* or *Macedon*.

LET us suppose the Case our own : Should not we, when *France* shall endeavour by Force or Fraud to extend her Limits, and to settle a Tyranny over the allied States ; should not we, I again repeat, exert that Power and Authority, which have more than once reduced her Dominions to proper Bounds ? Let this be granted, and it will follow, that *Athens* undertook a just War, when she endeavoured to effect a Diminution of the Strength, and put a stop to the Encroachments