

materially increas'd, except in North-America; and there, the m—— have really had great merit as negotiators, in securing so large and complete a territory, that the French are entirely extirpated, and we have no other boundaries to our colonies, than uninhabited wilds and endless forests—This is our situation. What is the number of standing forces intended to be propos'd? The whole of our present army for half a year, and then, *to be reduc'd to eighty-five regiments of foot*, exclusive of the guards; and this amazing increase is to be made, notwithstanding that we now have the addition of a militia of 30,000 men, upon whose spirit and resolution, the same m—— have had great reliance throughout the war, and in the most dangerous part of it, have thought them alone, almost sufficient for the internal defence of this kingdom.—Upon this (I hope, fair) state of the case, What can the m—— intend by so large a force? Security against the French? No; their strength is broke, *we have a lasting peace*, they fear our reputation: What then? Is it to make an ill use of their power, and sacrifice the liberty of this country, to a standing army? I abhor the thought; his M—— would never suffer it, the m—— dares not advise it, the officers of the army would refuse to concur in it: what then remains, except that by the increase of Colonels, Lieutenant Colonels, Lieutenant Colonel and Major Commandants, with all the other terms