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CONSTITUTIONAL
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QUERIES,

Humbly Addressed to the

ADMIRERS

Of a late

MINISTER.

L O N D O N :

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1761?

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CONSTITUTIONAL

QUERIES, &c.

W HETHER a Person often
W Retrograding from his own
Doctrines and Publick Pro-
fessions, is consistent with the Character
of one who Affects a nice and delicate
way of Thinking and Acting?

Whether such a Deviation of a
Person, in Place from his profess'd way
of Thinkiug out of Place, without any

manifest

manifest Alteration of Circumstances, is not enough to create a Suspicion of his leaning too much on the Side of Self-Interest ?

Whether if a Person who is look'd upon to have the Lead in an Administration, should espouse the Interest of a Foreign Country, as for Instance *Germany*, to a Degree inconsistent with the Interest of *England*, he is not more properly to be stiled a *German* than an *English* Minister ?

Whether, this Country is in a Scituation of spending in *Germany* five or six Millions *per Annum* ; and if it was in a Condition of sparing such Money whether it wou'd be good Policy, to do it without the least Prospect of Advantage ?

Whether this Country of late has stood at a much less Annual Expence
then

then five Millions spent in Subsidy's, and maintaining Troops in *Germany*?

Whether any considerable Part of the Money so expended, is ever likely to return to *England*?

Whether *France* by her Trade is not likely to draw a much more considerable Part of it to herself?

Whether the long continuance of such an Annual Expence, is not likely sooner or later to Beggar this Country, and to be followed by a National Bankruptcy?

Whether the present low and distress'd Condition, in which this Country is oblig'd to enter on a new War, is not intirely owing to our late Minister's wild, mad, and extravagant Projects on the Continent, and other scandalous Dissipations of the Publick Money?

Whether

Whether *Spain* wou'd have dared to have offered such Insults to *Great Britain*, if she had not strongly presumed on our being much reduc'd by the *German War*?

Whether Honour obliges us to support our Allies, till we are no longer in a Condition of supporting ourselves?

Whether an Equivalent might not have been found for H———r, during the Time of its being in Possession of the Enemy upon much easier Terms, than Defending it?

Whether any better Treaty cou'd have been made for *England*, than the Treaty of Neutrality, concluded by His Royal Highness at *Cloister Seven*?

Whether the Person who advis'd breaking that Treaty, the fatal Consequence of which was, involving this Nation deeper than ever in a Continent War,

War, doth not Merit the severest Punishment this Country can inflict ?

Whether the Treaty concluded with the Prince of *Hesse*, 1760, whereby we engage ourselves, not only to pay the full Price for the Hire of his Troops, but to indemnify his Country from any Dangers, in case the *French* should attack his Dominions; is not the most unjust, and disadvantageous Treaty which cou'd have been enter'd into with regard to *England*?

Whether this Indemnification was not inviting the Enemy to plunder and lay waste that poor, ruin'd, and distress'd Country ?

Whether there have not been Times when a Minister, Bold and Daring enough to set his Hand to such a Treaty, would not have been in Danger of losing his Head ?

Whether

Whether the Minister, who had no more regard for his Country than set his Hand to such a Treaty is to be look'd upon by Englishmen, as an able or an ——— Minister?

Whether in the Treaty with *Prussia*, our Minister ever demanded any Abatement of those grievous Taxes and Impositions on *English* Goods and Manufactures within the *Prussian* Dominions; which are laid so high, that in many Instances they amount to a Prohibition?

Whether such ill-tim'd, ill-founded, ill-provided for, and unprofitable Expeditions as have been concerted of late, *viz.* such as our former one to *Martinico*, *Mauritius*, *Belleisle*, and the Coast of *France*, are any Proof of our late Ministers great Talents and Abilities as a Statesman?

Whether our late Minister hath not increas'd our National Debt, by his extravagant Measures, to near 136
Millions

Millions inclusive of the Demands for
1762.

Whether much less than 60
Millions of this Debt has not been con-
tracted, during the Time of his own
Administration ?

Whether the Nation has obtained
any Advantages adequate to such an
Expence, especially if we add to this Sum,
such other immense Sums as have been
rais'd, and squandered within the Year ?

Whether our late Minister, or his
Partizans, have ever formed any Enquiry
in order to ascertain, what Share of the
new-created Debt belongs to Foreigners ?

Whether, ignorant of this, they are
proper Judges of the true State of this
Country, or of what they themselves have
been doing ?

Whether without Ships, 'tis possi-
ble

ble for the *French* to Transport Troops to their Colony's, and whether if they had Ships, with our Superiority they wou'd have been able to have succeeded in sending necessary Succours, to the support of them.

Whether our late Minister, was not greatly misled in making an entire Conquest of *Canada*?

Whether the Acquisition of that Territory on the Continent, will ever answer the Sanguine Hopes, which some People have entertain'd of it?

Whether the most valuable of our Acquisitions, and those which it concerns us mostly to preserve, are not the French Fisheries in *North America* and her Sugar Islands which last are far best worth retaining, tho both may be desirable?

Whether the Enemy's Naval Power,

Power, before the Commencement of the War, was not, in a great Measure, founded on the Trade of these Places?

Whether our late Minister, regardless of this Important Consideration and the enormous Expence, which this Nation has been put to, had not agreed, that those Places, which are almost the only ones worth our Retaining, should be restored, in settling Preliminaries with Monsieur *Buffy*?

Whether in making this Cession he was not like the unlucky Animal in the Fable, who after having given her Milk had the Grace to kick it down with her Heel?

B

Whether

Whether it is not the Policy of *England*, and if it ought not to be her principal Object, in any future Treaty, to Endeavour if possible to exclude the *French* totally, and intirely from the Fishing Trade in *North America*, as well in the *Gulph* of *St. Lawrence*, as on the Banks of *Newfoundland*, which wou'd absolutely, prevent the Growth of the French Marine, especially if we retain'd *Guadalupe* and *Martinico*, on a Supposition that this last Place should fall into our Hands during the Course of this War ?

Whether our late Minister did not set out with the strongest Professions of Oeconomy, and if there is any one Instance to be produc'd of his carrying those Professions into Execution, except in the Wine Office, where nothing in present is sav'd to Public, and in future only a casual Advantage ?

Whether

The Author is not so Sanguine as to think in our present Circumstances, that the whole will be retained on a future Peace, but is of Opinion that unless we retain the French Fisherys or Sugar Islands, any Peace will be a Fallacious one.

Whether very large Strides have not been taken, during a late Minister's Administration, towards increasing the Influence of the Crown?

Whether a Minister, who advises the raising of new Regiments, without a Case of Necessity, and without first consulting Parliament, (a Militia existing) is a sincere Friend to the Constitution?

Whether a Minister's engaging the Nation in an Expence (however little it may be attended to) greatly exceeding any Vote of Parliament, is not of dangerous Consequence?

Whether one and the other of these Measures might not in future be

made an ill Use of, and whether the same in present do not Carry along with them a Reflection on Parliament, in regard to a Minister presuming too much on the Pliability of the Members of it ?

Whether when a Militia was first set on Foot, our late Minister so warmly Espoused it, as was Expected ?

Whether nevertheless the Salvation of this Country doth not depend on our having a well-establiſh'd Militia ?

Whether a late Minister did not Acquiesce in, if not promote all the Discouragements which were thrown on this great National and Salutary Measure, which cou'd help to render the Service

Odious

Odious to every Independant Gentleman who had the Honor to bear His Majesty's Commiffion ?

Whether this could be done with any other view but to perpetuate and entail a Regular Standing Military Force on us and our Posterity ?

Whether that Force has not been fo amazingly Increas'd of late, particularly during our late Minifter's Administration, that under any other but the best of Governments, it could not fail proving Dangerous, to the Liberties of the People ?

Whether it doth not too plainly appear, by his own Conduct and Publick Management,

Management, that our late Minister never had the least Attention to Publick Oeconomy.

Whether if this Country had continued much longer under his Management and Direction, we shou'd not in all Probability, have been Irretrievably undone ?

Whether it was not a Happy Day for *England* when he quitted the Seals ?

Whether taking a Pension, at this Time of Public Distress, doth not fill up the Measure of his D——s and complete his Character.

Finally, Whether, (notwithstanding our Critical Scituation render'd so by our late
late

late Minister's Measures) vigorous Efforts by an Attempt on *Hispaniola*, are not the most likely means of retrieving our Affairs, in which if we met with Success we should have nothing to do, (*Germany* being abandoned) but to remain on the defensive except at Sea, where our Fleet is at present a Match for all Europe ?

O M I T T E D.

Whether it is not now more than evident that certain Destruction attended the *German* Measure, and whether they who shall adopt it will not be equally Criminal with our late Minister, who so warmly espoused it ?

Note, Denmark seems to be the only Power worth our Courting, for the *Dutch* I doubt will never give us much Assistance.

E R R A T A.

Page 7, line 8, for *Dangers*, r. *Losses*.

F I N I S.



