

corporation having become literally bankrupt, he, *for the first time*, acknowledged some right in the citizens to a control over the town's funds. By some irregularity in the election of the Council in 1817, the election became null, and a fair opportunity occurred of amending the radical defects in the mode of election. Negotiations were accordingly commenced between the party who had so long adhered to the defective system, and a committee of burgesses and tradesmen. That these parties could not agree, was by no means surprising, as the old junto was never sincerely inclined to accede to any alteration, or to submit to any sort of effectual control. The negotiation was at first secretly thwarted, and finally broken off by the intrigues of the party, and the old junto were reinstated in the same system of secrecy and concealment, by an order of the Privy Council, which, it is said, was procured by the same noble Lord who now patronizes Mr. Hadden. In the meantime, the whole property belonging to the treasury, had been disposed to trustees for behoof of the city creditors, for a debt of the enormous amount of £230,000 sterling. By the prudent management of these trustees, and the great reduction of the rate of interest, they were enabled to restore the credit of the corporation in a few years; not by paying off the debt, but by a transfer of the claims to others who were willing to accept of the security. Whether or not these claims will ever be liquidated is problematical; that any balance will remain of the proceeds of the estates, is still more doubtful, but that such balance will nearly equal the value of any one of the estates alienated, it is vain to expect. Since the re-establishment of the Council on the old system, Mr. Hadden has constantly exercised the same "excessive and unnatural preponderance" as before, holding the control or opinions of his fellow-citizens in the most sovereign contempt, at the head of the same self-elected junto, a majority of them, consisting of his own family, relatives, or servants. If any other citizen is occasionally admitted, some young man newly begun business is singled out,