

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF GREAT
BRITAIN, IRELAND, AND THEIR DEPENDENCIES,
AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR 1823 :
STATED AND EXPLAINED UNDER THE HEADS OF
FINANCE, NATIONAL RESOURCES, FOREIGN
RELATIONS, COLONIES, TRADE, AND
DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION**

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Administration of the affairs of Great Britain, Ireland, and their dependencies, at the commencement of the year 1823 : stated and explained under the heads of finance, national resources, foreign relations, colonies, trade, and domestic administration by Various

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ADMINISTRATION
OF
THE AFFAIRS
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OF THE
KINGDOM OF GUATEMALA,
IN
Spanish America :

CONTAINING IMPORTANT PARTICULARS RELATIVE TO ITS VALUABLE
PRODUCTIONS, MANUFACTURES, CUSTOMS, &c. &c.

WITH A
HISTORY OF ITS CONQUEST

BY THE
SPANIARDS,

AND A NARRATIVE OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS FROM THAT PERIOD TO THE PRE-
SENT TIME, DRAWN UP FROM ORIGINAL RECORDS DEPOSITED IN THE ARCHIVES,
FROM ACTUAL OBSERVATION, AND OTHER AUTHENTIC SOURCES OF INFORMATION.

BY DON DOMINGO JUARROS,
A Native of the City of New Guatemala.

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ADMINISTRATION,

&c. &c.

THE time is approaching in which the main branches of our administration, financial, foreign, domestic, and colonial, must severally pass under the ordinary annual review of Parliament. To arrive at a just estimate of any one of these subjects requires a closer and nearer examination of the public documents, and official statements, than can be afforded at the time and place of their discussion. To assist in forming the public judgment upon these subjects; to produce, explain, and arrange these documents, is the purport of the following observations. It is, therefore, proposed to take a review of the actual state of affairs from January, 1822, to the year now commenced.

In investigating the mass of materials and facts, which must necessarily compose such an examination, it will be immediately seen, that the established order of public business affords the most suitable method for developing a sub-

ject matter so extensive and various. It is our purpose, therefore, to follow this order.

Under the head of Finance, the year 1822 has been distinguished by some memorable measures which will be discussed in their due order. For the first time, perhaps, the public have acknowledged the peculiar system of Lord Liverpool and the Chancellor of the Exchequer in active and effectual operation; and have seen those practical results which no one had previously anticipated. They have seen taxes reduced, in one year, to the amount of nearly four millions; whilst the service of the country has been effectually administered through all the departments, and public credit maintained and strengthened by an actual surplus fund of five millions.

Under the head of our National Resources, the reader will learn, with unqualified pleasure, that all the springs of our public wealth are entire and unimpaired; that our foreign commerce is administering the most abundant supply to our internal trade and manufactures; whilst all sources are pouring forth, in a bounteous stream, their several contributions to the public revenue.

The review of our Foreign Relations, and of our Colonial Administration, will follow the statement of our national resources, and will

enforce, it is presumed, the same conclusion. In common with every intelligent mind, his Majesty's ministers cannot but be strongly impressed with the most essential value, not to say paramount necessity, of the existing general peace of Europe; and with their own obligations not to be wanting in every effort to preserve it, by maintaining its securities. They are, doubtless, of opinion, that these securities consist in that state of actual possession by the several European powers, which was settled by the treaties of Vienna. But they cannot, at the same time, hesitate to admit, that every independent power has a right to consult for the exigencies of its own self-defence, and to decide the question of its own danger.

The remaining portion of the subject matter of these pages will necessarily fall under the head of Domestic Administration; under which it is proposed to take a brief review of those measures, which have been adopted for the purpose of assisting and promoting the agricultural, commercial, shipping, manufacturing, and general interests of the country.

As a statement, already necessarily long, would have been rendered too voluminous for general use by the annexation of all the documents employed at full length, tables and papers have been omitted. Enough, however, is