

**MAXIMS AND OPINIONS, MORAL,
POLITICAL, AND ECONOMICAL,
WITH CHARACTERS, FROM THE
WORKS OF THE RIGHT HON.
EDMUND BURKE. VOL. II**

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W. C. Broadhead
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WITH

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THE RIGHT HON. EDMUND BURKE.

VOL. II.



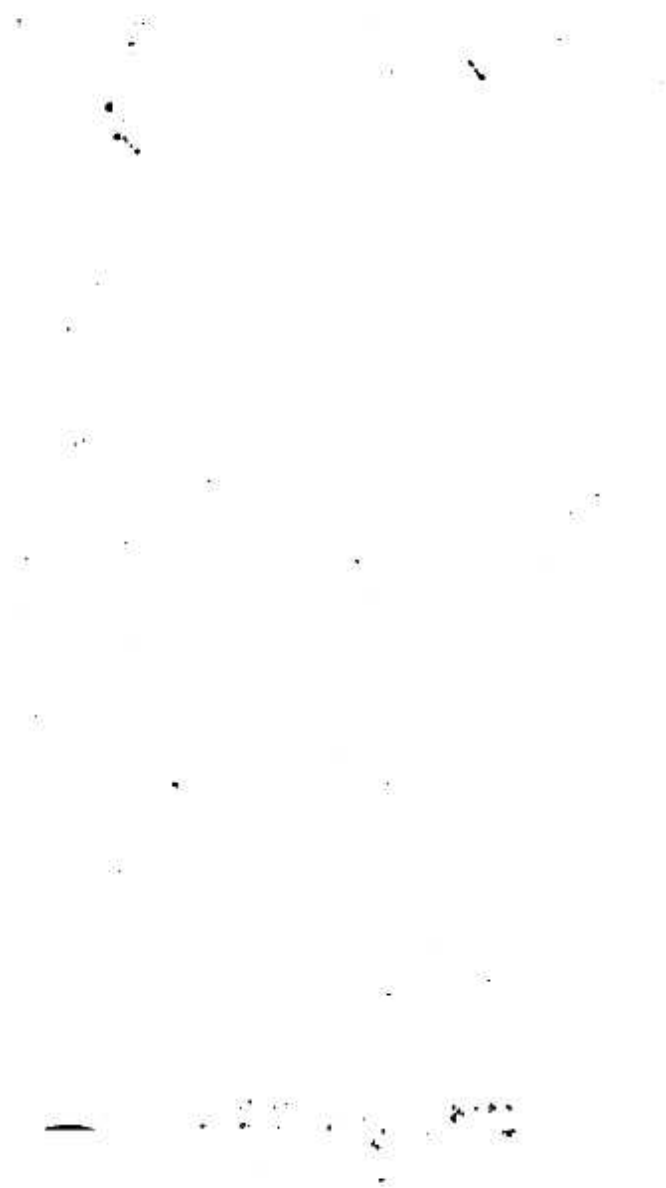
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MAXIMS AND OPINIONS,

MORAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMICAL.

MINISTERS OF STATE.

MINISTERS turning their backs on the reputation which properly belongs to them, aspire at the glory of being speculative writers. The duties of these two situations are, in general, directly opposite to each other. Speculators ought to be neutral. A minister cannot be so. He is to support the interest of the public as connected with that of his master.—He is his master's trustee, advocate, attorney, and steward—and he is not to indulge in any speculation which contradicts that character or even detracts from its efficacy. Necker had an extreme thirst for this sort of glory; so had others; and this pursuit of a misplaced and misunderstood reputation, was one of the causes of the ruin of these ministers, and of their unhappy master.

* * * *

It is undoubtedly the business of ministers very much to consult the inclinations of the people, but they ought to take great care that they do not receive