

...to expose them, in their true and proper characters, to the examination of their constituents. To excite suspicions against them, to recommend a "cautious distrust," and to remove the ill-placed confidence of the people, is an evidence of public virtue and fortitude, rarely discovered, in our modern depravity, and corruption of manners. That the Senator has exhibited a most illustrious example of this nature is evinced, by the following passages, which I have selected, from his several publications, and which fully express his opinion of our house of delegates, and of particular members. The candid reader, having them presented in one view, may make his own comments, and draw his own inferences and conclusions.

1. The house of delegates really intended to strip several, whom the laws consider as subjects, of their property, without trial, contrary to our bill of rights.—1 Sen. 3 col. 28 line.

2. The principles of law and our constitution were a secondary consideration, and the obtaining, at any rate, British property, the first.—1 Sen. 3 col. 32 l.

3. The plan of the house of delegates, for confiscation, was contrary to the law of nations, our common law, and the principles of our constitution.—1 Sen. 3 col. 46 l.

4. Confiscating property, in our power, of unoffending British subjects, if aliens (which the Senator denies) will favour of plunder, and indiscriminate revenge.—1 Sen. 3 col. 9 l. from bot.

5. The house of delegates withheld the bill for confiscation, for reasons best known to themselves.—2 Sen. 3 col. 4 l. from the bottom.

6. Part of the message from the delegates has the appearance of a laboured apology for engrossers and speculators.—2 Sen. 5 col. 44 l.

7. Speculators will sell out part of their purchases, unless more effectual means be taken hereafter (if British property is confiscated) to make them pay the full value thereof, than would have been taken by the delegates, last session, if the senate had not interposed.—2 Sen. 5 col. 70 l.

8. The legislature should render their sittings as little burthensome as possible to the people. The business of last session cost near £.60,000, and might have been transacted in half the time. The session was unnecessarily protracted. The people would do well to enquire into this matter.—3 Sen. 2 col. 37 l.

9. It is not the Senator's wish or intention to excite the resentment of the public against any man, or set of men; cautious distrust may be necessary; too little suspicion may degenerate into such a confidence, in the representatives, as to be abused.—3 Sen. 2 col. bot. & 3 col. top.

10. A free and discerning people will not rely on mere and plausible professions, but they will search narrowly into the true and secret springs of the public councils, and not always content themselves with the ostensible and assigned motives for the conduct of their representatives.—3 Sen. 3 col. 10 l.

11. Particular circumstances and particular characters will furnish the people with a clue to lead them, through all the windings, to the main and innermost spring of public measures.—3 Sen. 3 col. 19 l.

12. The reasons in the senate's message, and what the Senator has suggested, will enable the public to form a judgment of the rectitude and policy of the motives, which induced the house of delegates to urge the passage of the confiscation bill, and the senate to reject it.—3 Sen. 3 col. 25 l.

13. The probability, that the Plebeian is closely connected, and in combination with the Delegates, renders the Plebeian unworthy of trust and confidence.—4 Sen. 13 l.

A DELEGATE.

Annapolis, March 15, 1780.

LONDON.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

THURSDAY November 25, 1779.

THE king having retired, the commons returned to their house and the speaker according to custom having twice read, with an audible voice, his majesty's speech, lord Lewisham proposed an address of thanks: to prove that they were due to his majesty, this lord employed a part of the same arguments which were made use of by lord Chesterfield in the other house, he enlarged upon his majesty's attention in these difficult times, to provide for the safety of his kingdom, and upon the wisdom of the measures which had been adopted. It was to be lamented, he said, that the last campaign had produced no brilliant events upon which they might compliment his majesty, and that it must be confessed that the summer had been remarkable for inaction on their part, but nevertheless it had not been unfortunate or fatal, and however dangerous in fact, the confederation formed against Great-Britain was, they had only been threaten-

ed with an invasion; a threat which at bottom did not alarm those who knew the force and resources of this country, and the execution of which, perhaps, was to be wished for, as it is probable the enemy would have had reason to have repented the attempt; but if that crisis was dangerous the same danger still existed, and if any thing can disperse it, it is union, harmony, an unanimity of spirit, of heart, and of action. Let us turn our attention to our outward enemies; let us extinguish within us that fire of animosity; let us shun that spirit of debate, of discussion and political enquiry, in which our indiscretions only serve to inform the enemy of every thing that it is important they should be ignorant of, and point out to them our strongest and our weakest part, and that where they ought to attack. What we ought to shun as the greatest enemy that England has, is that spirit of division; it will be the strongest ally of the confederation that we shall have to contend with; let us avoid adding to a force already formidable enough, but if I should at last see unanimity established among us, I do not doubt but we should be able to avert the storm which threatens us. His lordship made some mention of Ireland, and attributed all the disorders which had lately arisen to the lower people; or the mob.

Lord Packer confined himself to seconding the motion for the toms, and said that the noble lord had spoken so well, that he had left him nothing to say.

Lord John Cavendish proposed an amendment, almost literally the same as that made by the marquis of Rockingham, but before reciting it, he made the following introduction:—Before voting an address of thanks, of which the ministers will take all the honour to themselves, I would be glad to know how these ministers have deserved the thanks of the nation, I would endeavour to find out from the speech which has been read, what is the object of thanks which the address ought to express, I have only remarked one passage in which the truth is evident, which is, that the designs of our enemies have by the blessing of Providence, been frustrated: still it must be confessed that we are much indebted to Providence; she has seen that we had no other dependence but on her; she has saved us, the ministers have had no part in this miracle, why then should we thank them? The combined fleets have appeared in our channel, have intimated our coasts, we have found no other safety than in a retreat: is it for this we should thank the ministers? or is it on account of the abuses that have crept into the manner of conducting the military department? nothing can be more odious, than the shameful partiality, and blameable profusion in the raising new regiments; such are the traces that characterize this department; indolence and incapacity, in the greatest extreme characterize all the others; from thence arise that chain of calamities that desolate this country, from thence the deplorable state to which the funds herself reduced. Is this the time to eary thanks to the throne, without accompanying them with a word of advice? No, it is necessary to add some few words to the address proposed by the noble lord, I propose the following.

[Here should be the amendment, which is omitted by the French news-writer.]

In the course of his speech, he expressed his astonishment at the silence of the crown, with regard to America: this circumstance was likewise remarked by other members, who have gone more largely in their observations upon this silence.

Mr. James Grenville seconded the motion for an amendment: lord John Cavendish had taken for his text in the king's speech, the thanks given to Providence: Mr. Grenville took his from the exhortation made to the house by lord Lewisham, and commented much upon unanimity; "unanimity, said he, is what I likewise desire; it is what I hope to find in this house; it is time that all parties unite to see justice done to the nation, and to punish, as they deserve, the authors of its ruin: it is time that the representatives of the people, sensible of the extent of their duties, with regard to their constituents, should open their eyes to the public calamities; it should be the order of things, in the spirit of the constitution, that at the beginning of parliament, the people should testify their satisfaction, in seeing that conjuncture arrived which is waited for with so much impatience; a time, which ought to be set apart for the redress of grievances; but it is not so this very time, on the contrary it is actually among the evils that afflict the people. It is known that the object of our meeting is reduced nearly to the business of approving some new tax, which, however ingeniously presented, is nevertheless an additional weight to the burden under which it already sinks. Things are brought to such a pass, that perhaps

there is more to hope for from the ministers themselves, than from that body formed by the constitution, for the preservation of the rights of the people, they perhaps will chuse to retire, and to leave in more able hands the government of the state, I exhort them to it, prudence counsels them with me; they may again, with a confirmed majority, reckon to go on some little time with impunity; but this time cannot be long, their friends cannot long delay in abandoning them to their fate, when that moment shall arrive, I ask, is there a member in this house, who will present himself to screen them from the national vengeance? Can this challenge it were not a little surprising to see a new convert rise, it was

Mr. Adam, who having uniformly voted against administration in the beginning of the session, had about the end of it made a tour through the counties, and had learnt, that it was not the ministers that were to blame; but that it was the officers who were intrusted with the different commands! This discovery had totally changed his manner of thinking, of course he did not see why a total change in the administration was become necessary. "I agree, continued he, that to give firmness and energy to the council of the state, it is necessary to discharge some members, but to take all together, there is more wisdom, more vigour, more popularity actually in the administration, than in the candidates who canvass the places of those that compose it: our country is not in safety in the hands of those that hold the reins; in those of the opposite party its destruction would be immediate, a shameful peace would be the consequence of such a change. What is most certain is, that at this moment England sees within itself a very strange phenomenon, an indolent administration, that succeeds in no one thing, and an opposition without popularity; but now, if one cannot give indifferently his approbation and his support to all the members of the administration, there is some of them whose abilities and virtues inspire more confidence in the people, than any of the members of the opposition.— Name them, name them, was cried out from all parts. Mr. Adam then named the lord chancellor, and viscount Stormont, he enlarged particularly upon the qualities, the merits, the application and the popularity of the viscount; and declared, that this new secretary of state possessed on one part the entire confidence of his sovereign, and on the other was infinitely agreeable to the people; but, continued he, it is not enough, to save our country, it is necessary that all the members of the administration agree equally. It is necessary that the noble lord, who sits on the treasury bench (lord North) should give his assistance, that he should renounce his indolence, his taste for inactivity; that he should at last awake, and concern himself in the welfare of the nation. We cannot dissemble that the task is difficult, that the danger is at our gates and pretis us strongly, but let the gentlemen only recal the year 1691, and they will agree, that at that conjuncture we were in at least as dangerous circumstances: twice beaten at sea by the French, laying in the very bottom of the kingdom an enemy risen up against the crown, the nation was certainly then in a more dangerous situation than at present; and I doubt not if unanimity should second our endeavours, we shall be able to avert the storm."

According to this honourable member, replied Mr. Thomas Townshend, the members of the opposition, are actually the candidates who canvass for the places of the ministers! let him permit me to observe, at least for myself, that I am not a candidate for any place: I am ignorant upon what authority the honourable member could found this strange assertion; the honourable member in taking a turn into Scotland, has discovered that the ministers whom he had formerly so highly condemned were not to blame; and because he has imagined that in one single instance, they were right, he concludes that they have never been wrong in any point whatever. As for myself, wherever I have been, I have seen, I have heard the contrary; I have found that the ministers are despised and execrated every where; and how can it be otherwise? I not only join my voice to that of the public in this respect, but I believe from my soul, that it is not want of (talents) that it is not inability alone that has contributed to our misfortunes, to our disgrace, but that there is treason mixed with it, on my conscience I believe it; and it is only by being penetrated with this idea, that I can account for what is past. I have seen a fleet of the house Bourbon sailing through the channel in triumph, threatening our coasts, having it absolutely in its power to destroy the second port, the second arsenal of Great-Britain, and to have invaded any part of the coast wherever it had pleased to try a descent: I have seen an English fleet so disproportioned in strength, that