

and explicit a Law as ever was made; have been most shamefully insulted and traduced; not in private Companies and public Meetings only, but in Print also; and that not in supposititious Characters, but expressly by Name; a Treatment savage, cruel, and scandalous, and heretofore unknown in any civiliz'd Part of the World. Not contented with these machieful Proceedings, the honest, but too credulous, People have been surprizingly seduced, and mace to believe, that this Action of the Justices, although preservative of their Properties, was nevertheless destructive of their Liberties: Thus by an Abuse of the amiable Word LIBERTY, the People, through a sad mistake, thro' mistaken View of preserving entire that principal Ingredient of their Happiness, have become the Dupes and Engines of promoting the avaritious Views of others, without any consideration of the least Advantage to themselves. Nor is this the worst:—From an honest Principle in many; from interested Motives in some; and from mistaken Notions in most; this Affair has tour'd the Minds of Men, and alienated their Affections to such a Degree, that the Inhabitants of the same County are already like two different Nations, and in a fair Way of hating one another as heartily, as if they had been declared Enemies from their Birth.

THE celebrated Author, whom I first mentioned, has set the Calamities attending such a Division in so clear and moving a Light, and, at the same time, so justly touch'd upon the Characters of every Party in this Dispute, that it would be doing my Country Injustice not to give his Sentiments a Place here. 'There cannot (says he) a greater Judgment befall a Country, than such a dreadful Spirit of Division as rends a Government into two distinct People; and makes them greater Strangers, and more averse to one another, than if they were actually two different Nations. The Effects of such a fatal Division are pernicious to the last Degree; not only as to those Advantages which they give the common Enemy, but those private Evils which they produce in the Heart of almost every particular Person. This Influence is very fatal, both to Mens Morals, and their Understandings; it sinks the Virtue of a Nation, and not only so, but destroys even common Sense.

'A furious Party Spirit, when it rages in full Violence, exerts itself in Civil War and Bloodshed; and when it is under it's greatest Restraints, naturally breaks out into Falshood, Detraction, Calumny, and a partial Administration of Justice. In a Word, it fills a Nation with Spleen and Rancour, and

'extinguishes all the Seeds of Good-Nature, Compassion, and Humanity.'

'IT is the restless Ambition of artful Men, that thro' back the People into Factions, and draws several well meaning Persons to their Interest, by a specious Concern for their Country. How many honest Minds are fill'd with excellent Notions out of their Zeal for the public Good? How Cruelties and Outrages would they not commit against Men of an adverse Party, whom they would Honour and Esteem, instead of considering them as they are represented, they treat them as they are! Thus are Persons of the greatest abilities made bad Men, even by that noblest of Principles, the Love of their Country.'

THE Authors of these Evils and Misfortunes, think without doubt, all that Farce and Grimace with which they have conducted themselves, passing upon the World for mighty Abilities and Cunning. Perhaps it does so; but of this I may venture to say to them, that with all their Wiles and Subtilties, in the End they will find themselves extremely short-sighted, and fatally mistaken. As those who wantonly sport with the Esteem and Happiness of a People, cannot long escape the People's Retribution, who are sure always to take Vengeance, at least in proportion to the Injuries they receive: For when, however, I consider that my Opinion alone should be taken; having, for Authority, that inimitable Writer upon Liberty, the PATRIOT, with whom I shall close this subject.

'SUCH as are known not to love their Country, cannot reasonably expect to be safe in it; or that Enmity to their Country, will not meet with Public Hate, which is the next Step to Public Revenge. And they who are indifferent to every thing but their own, tho' they may purchase Flattery, and have Minds as bad as theirs, can never be exempt from one miserable Reflection, that most Men, and all the best, abhor them; whilst only a few of the worst, applaud them. Nor can they find much Delight from the hollow Praises of a Tribe of Fawners, when they remember that injur'd Virtues are perhaps at the same Time cursing them. While indeed personate Public Spirit for a while, yet have time and for a While pass for Virtuous, without having Virtue. But the Fraud will soon be discover'd. No Digestion of long hicc the false Patriot; and his Hypocrisy will betray to his Condemnation, when it is no longer able to conceal his Guilt.'

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by JONAS GREEN, Post-Master, at his PRINTING-OFFICE in Charles-Street; where Advertisements are taken in, and all Persons may be supplied with this Paper.