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KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA





## LETTER

TO

### His G\_E the D\_E of B\_\_\_d.

One of the best Remedies against the Inconveniences of Counsel is, that Princes should know their Counsellors, as well as they know them:

Principis, est Virtus maxima, nosse suos.

BACON'S Essay on Counsel.

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### LETTER

TO

His GR-E the D-e of B-D.

My L-D,

# HIS Letter is addressed to your # Gr — by one who has not, nor ever expects to have the Honour of being known to you; by one, by Prospects of Preserment and private Advantage, nor infligated to it by any Aversions or Attachments in respect to the Parties which at present subsist in I-l-d. The Intention of the Writer, is to give your Grace, a clear and just Idea of the State of Parties in this Kingdom, and by so doing, to warn your Grace of the Danger to which the Public, through you, may be exposed, from the Intrigues of ambitious Men: His Motive (which he hopes, will be an Apology for an Address of this Nature) is the public Service, B 2

the Advantage which may refult to a Conmunity, of which he is a Member, from a wife, impartial, and virtuous Administration.

A few private Men, have for several Years, almost intirely governed this Island. Though their Views were as different as their Interests, yet they centered in one Point, which gave Life and Consequence to the whole Body; and that was, never to permit a Chief Governor to interfere in the domestic Administration of the Kingdom. Their steady Adherence to this Principle, made them always necessary to the Chief Governor; and from being confiderable at the Castle, they maintained their Influence in the House of Commons. Your Grace doubtless, who has refided among a People where Acquisitions of this Nature come pretty dear, will be astonished at the cheap Rate at which this Influence was held up, when I affure your Grace, that the Appointment of Sheriffs, and the Nomination to Titles in the Militia, were the only Gratuities made use of by these Gentlemen to their Friends. The one as infamous as the other is ridiculous; by the former, the Power of Injustice and Oppression was lodged in the Hands of those who were so abandoned as to look for it, by the latter the Vanity of weak Minds was flattered; who conscious of Demerit as to real Honours, were fatisfied with fuch as were imaginary.

Such was the Foundation of the Power of the Cabal (for fo I shall for the Sake of Brevity call these Gentlemen) their Dependance increased daily, and at last they ruled the lower House of P\_\_\_\_t without Controll; for I cannot call the feeble Efforts of a few Men, without Abilities, without Spirit, an Opposition. To the Cabal the successive L---d L — ts were condemned to remit the whole Authority of the State. They in Return undertook, for that was their Phrase, (from whence a merry L---d L---t would never call them by any other Name than that of The Undertakers) to do what is faid to be the K---'s Business; but which is in Truth the Procurement of all fuch Supplies as the English M--r thinks proper to demand, and to prevent any Examination into the Accounts of the preceding Years.

Some L—d L—ts fubmitted unwillingly to the Difgrace of being thus managed, and of acting fo mean and infensible a Part. But what could they do? There was no other Power to which they could refort, if they refused the proffered Assistance of the Cabal; whereas with such Pilots at the Helm, they were sure of steering a safe and pleasant Course, without any Russing or Disorder. Besides, most of them were appointed to the Government to repair their shattered Fortunes; and all of them had rapacious Secretaries, who could not sleece the People, but

under the Protection of the Cabal.

Such was for many Years, the passive tranquil Situation of the C-m-ns of I-d, and

and, in Consequence, of every Inhabitant in this Kingdom. We now, my Lord, approach a Scene of Action. That happy Lethean stupor, like all other earthly Things, at last suffered a Dissolution. We are now come to that Period, when Doctor St—e, in the Flower of Youth, was promoted to the Pr-m-y, a Station to which none before him had been exalted, till the Decline of Life.

It is not to be wondered at, that the rapid Progress of this young Ecclesiastic, through the Dignities of his Order, and who was now not only at the Head of the Church, with an immense Income, but of the State, should inspire him with Notions, and the Cabal with Suspicions; each had hitherto been Strangers to. It was some Time however, before the Extent of his Views were discovered. His feeming Moderation and inoffenfive Demeaner, veiled his boundless Ambition. His Entertainments and Connections were fuited to his Youth, and seemed rather to proceed from Motives of Pleasure than Ambition. His Curtefy, Affability, and hospitable Table, recommeded him universally. As yet the Cabal were not alarmed; fo long as he made no Attempts to interfere in their Department, the Business of the House of C-m-ns, they left him in the quiet Possession of his new acquired Popularity.

By Degrees this young Statesman infinuated himself into the Affections of many of the Young, and some of the Old, of the

House

House of C—m—ns. He now began to encourage privately the Murmurs of the People against the Soporisic Qualities of the Cabal, who stifled all Measures that were calculated for redressing the National Grievances, or which might give any Rub to the Wheels of G—v—t, in the Track they thought it proper to have them run. He daily ventured to open his Intentions of forming a Party in the House, at first to a few, and being encouraged by them, to all whom he had any Hopes of drawing to

his Party.

These Attempts to undermine the long established Power of the Cabal, became soon the Object of the penetrating Eyes of those experienced Veterans. Their Indignation broke out into Action, and convinced the young Adventurer that his Schemes were discovered. He on the other Hand found, that it would be to no Purpose longer to keep Meafures with the Cabal. Accordingly the Masque was thrown off, War was proclaimed in Form between the contending Powers, and a Standard was publickly erected, to which all who expected Preferment in the Church or State, or who were difgusted at the Proceeding of the Cabal, of which there were not a Few. were invited to refort.

No direct Acts of Hostility had as yet commenced, and each of the Cabal resolved privately to try what Advantage they could make of the Pr—m—'s Power, now become truly formidable from the Countenance of the Eng-

lish

lish M—n—r. But they were all deceived in their Expectations; the Pr—m—'s Politics flew higher than they imagined. He resolved to transfer the Management of Public Bufiness entirely out of their Hands into his own, and had nothing less in his Intentions than to suffer any one of them to participate in his Administration.

The first of the Cabal who tendered his Services to the Pr-m -e, was C-r, M-r of the R-lls. He was aged and infirm, perhaps not always fo much so as he affected to appear; yet his Mind did not submit to the Tyranny of Time; penetrating, reftless, and enterprizing; his Parts shone brightest when Accident or Necessity called them forth. made his Application to the Pr---m--e, and his Terms were, that his Son should have a Grant of the Reversion of his Employments. The Pr-m-e, who had already fwallowed that profitable Office in his Imagination, supposing the Master to be much near his End, than by fatal Experience he found him to be, with more Clearness than is usual in a Statesman, but which in him is excusable, as he was rarely afterwards guilty of the same Mismanagement, absolutely refused to comply with his Request. Enraged at this Disapointment, the Master, whose Experience or Age had by no Means subdued the Violence of his Passions, vowed Vengeance against the Pr-m-e, and upon such Occasions his Veracity was never to be doubted. However his first Attempts to stir up the Cabal, of wh ich

which he was a Member, to vindicate his Cause, were fruitless; the same Views which put him upon an Application to the Pr—m—e, restrained them from encouraging upon this

Occasion, the Transports of his Fury.

The Sp—k—r who was the first Name, tho not the Leader of the Cabal, was advanced in Years, and weary of Business: His Family was numerous, and his Office and Situation obliged him to live at a great Expence, in a continued Course of Solicitation. He had for some Time formed a Design of retiring, provided he could do it with Honour and Profit; all which he hoped to effect by the Assistance of the Pr—m—e. He was therefore at this Time averse to any Rupture with him.

Upon the Principle of Interest, Mr. M-1--e the grand Spring and Director of the Cabal, was immoveable. He had for some Time observed with Pleasure, the declining State of C----r's Health, upon whose Office he had fixed his Eye, and had no less Satisfaction in his Disappointment, making no Doubt that it was upon his Account folely, that the Pr--m--e had rejected C---r's Suit. Formidable from his Alliance, his Par---m---y Skill, and his Oratorial Powers, he had not as yet the least Suspicion that the Pr--m--e would venture to act without him, much less against him. He had all the Reason in the World to expect the contrary; the Pr-m-e, when B----p of D--r--y, having promifed him his Affistance to procure for his Brother the S--1-

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1---r G---n---l's Place. These Motives for fome Time, kept Mr. M---l---e, and con-

fequently the Cabal quiet.

The Pr-m-e in the mean Time, formed to himself mighty Projects. The Cardinals Richlieu and Mazarin, were the Objects of his Admiration and Imitation; and he studied Politics, Morality, and Divinity, in his favourite De Retz.

Mr. M--l-e would have been the readiest Instrument of his Ambition, but his Independence made him appear less suited, and his Abilities more dangerous to the Pr--m--'s projected Greatness. Besides, in Business (the Character the Pr--m--e 'most of all affected, and of which he was not incapable) Mr. M--l-e was intractable and over-bearing, and the Consciousness of superior Talents, made him treat the Understandings of others with a Degree of Contempt, at a Time when he least meaned to give Offence. The yielding and pliant Temper of Mr. T----l, was more fuited to the exalted Notions of the Pr--m--e. He had no Suspicion that his Abilities would fuffer an Eclipse from the Coadjutorship of that Gentleman; and his dependent Situation rendered his Fidelity to him undoubted.

Mr. T----l was at this Time making the closest Application imaginable to his Grace, for the S--ll--r's Place. The only Difficulty which stood in the Way of his Promotion, was the Promise made by the Pr---m--e to Mr. M--l--e; that however was at last surmounted

by the same prelatical Distinction, which apologised for the Consent of Charles the First, to the Execution of Lord Stafford. " At " the Time he made the Promise, he was " but B----p of D--rr--y, and in a private "Station; his Affection to Mr. M---l--e, in " his private Capacity, had induced him to " make that Promise; but now he was at the " Head of the State, he was to consider him-" felf in his public Character, and to pro-" ceed upon public Principles, not upon pri-" vate Motives, and was therefore bound in " Conscience, to break that Promise, which " he had made without any View to the Pu-" blic." And thus for Conscience Sake, Mr. T-1 was made S-11-r G-n-1.

This Step being taken, it was plain the Pr---m--e intended to keep no Measures with Mr. M--l--e, who in Truth was become the Object of his Hatred, or rather of his Fear; And the Master's Place, which had hitherto been held out to Mr. M-l-e at a Distance, was now promised to Mr. P-f-by, tho' it is suspected upon no unwarrantable Foundation, that it never was intended for either.

The E--l of B--b--b, beholding with an envious Eye, the Profits which the Cabal daily drew from their Influence in the lower House, had long laboured to establish an Interest there, in Opposition to that of the Cabal, but he had hitherto been bassled by their superior Subtility and Power. An Opportunity new offerred of forming a Connection by which he C-2 hoped

hoped to effect his Purpose as to that Particular and of participating with the Pr---m---e, the Confidence of the English Minister, and the Favours of the Court.

Agreements are soon concluded between Persons whose mutual Interest it is to be united. Reciprocal Vows of eternal Friendship passed between the Pr--m--e and the Noble Earl, All Efforts must be made to place Mr. P--f--by his Son, in the Chair of the House of C —s; that done, every thing would be at their Dis-

posal.

It must not be supposed that Motives of Friendship were the Bond of this Union. The Earl was too far advanced in Years, and too much experienced in Life, to act upon fuch uncommon Principles, The Pr---m was too much the Statesman, to be held by such feebles Ties. The true Priciples of each were, that the Earl thinking the Pr---m--e to be more attentive to Power than to Riches, fed himself with the Hopes of drawing all the Profits of this Union to himself; the Pr---m--e inordinately ambitious, made no Doubt of governing the intended Sp---k---r, (whose Levity it must be confessed, did not a little countenance fuch Expectations) as he pleafed, and by the Means of bringing the whole Power of the State into his own Hands.

To make Way for the intended Promotion of Mr. P--f---by, by the Speaker's Refignation (for his Removal now began to be dispaired of) was the greatest Dissiculty the con-

federate

federate L-ds thought they had to encounter. To bring this about, they endeavoured to make his Chair uneafy to him, the usual Practice upon fuch Occasions; by which they expected to make him defirous to quit it, and to lower his Terms for doing fo. Accordingly the S-r was no longer taken into the Confultation of the Castle, except for Form Sake, and not until every Thing had been previously resolved on, which could come into deliberation; and there was in every Thing, an Affectation of carrying on the publick Business, which before passed through his Hands, withouthis Affistance or Interposition. A Report was at the same Time industriously spread, that a fecret Treaty was carried on between the L-d L-t and the Sp---k---r, concerning this Refignation; this was contrived for two Purposes; to found the Intentions of the Sp-k-r upon that Subject, and to create Jealousies of him in his Friends; but this Experiment produced very different Consequences from what the young Politician, its Author expected.

It is not improbable from the Conduct of the Sp--k--r, before and fince the Period of which we now treat, that he (had not Indignities been offered to him) would have accepted Terms much less advantageous, than those which the others afterwards were willing to give, but this mortifying Treatment roused his drooping Spirits: He summoned all his Friends together, assured them in the most some

temn Manner, that he never had entertained a Thought of quitting the Chair, and vowed he never would, fo long as they were willing to support him in it. The Simplicity, and unaffected Ease of this Gentleman's Address, and a Politeness which seemed rather to flow from his Nature, than to be the Effect of Education or Acquifition, rendered him amiable even to those who most opposed him. In Appearance most open, in Fact none more referved: He had the Art of drawing from others their Thoughts, and of concealing his own, on the most important Subjects, without feeming to defire either, and without the least Appearance of Constraint. He heard well, and spoke little, but generally formed a found Judgment of Men and Things. He treated those, with whom he wished to stand well, with fuch Attention and Propriety, that he was careffed by them as a plain honest Country Gentleman. He had been raifed to the Chair, and supported in it by the People, at least without the Assistance of the Government, if not in Opposition to it; and he had upon fome Occasions, shewed a notable Firmness in resisting Attacks which had been made upon him, in carrying Matters through the House; which Matters however were not always much for his Credit. not to be wondered at, that this Man became popular, but it is furprizing that he should preserve his Popularity so long, even at Times when he was doing the most unpopular Acts. The

The Honesty of his Countenance, and his Manner of Expression, warm, interesting, and affectionate, made every Thing he said credited by those who suspected him most. But the Method he took to make People believe he conferred Obligations on them, was in its Success miraculous.

Upon these Interruptions of growing Discontents, C-r, who had for some Time remained quiet, under the Pretence of Age and Infirmities, thought it necessary for him now to make his Appearance upon the Stage again. No Man knew Times or Occasions better, and no one was more active in making the most of them.

Ipse ratem canto subigit, velisq. ministrat, Et serrugine a subvectat corpora Cymba, Fam Senior: Sed cruda Deo viridisq. Senectus

But though he had not publickly appeared fooner in Action, he had not been in the mean Time unemployed. Knowing, perhaps not intirely from his fown Experience, of what Confequence the Character of Integrity and Virtue is even to a Statesman, he with great Industry and Secrecy spread about Misrepresentations of the Pr—m—e, as a Man devoid of all Principles of Religion and Honour; as a Monster swayed by unnatural Appetites. To the first of these Charges, it must be confessed,

the Pr---me gave fome Countenance, by a Conduct a little too free for a Person at the Head of the Ecclefiastical Body. Having had a liberal Education himself, and having always lived with those who had, he could not confine himself within the narrow Sphere of his Profession. There was more Foundation for the Second than for any other Part of the Charge. He was not always as cautious in his Promifes as Prudence required. Even when did not promife, his Answer from a Fear of offending, and a Defire of uniting every Body to him, were expressed in such a Manner, as drew in the Persons to whom they were given, to guess at more than be meaned. A Practice often used by Statesmen, but which seems as little agreable to good Policy, as it is to Morality. Hence every Body left him contented and affured of his Friendship, receiving all his Expressions of Kindness as so many abfolute Promises of what they folicited. is not then very extraordinary that he should be charged with many Breaches of Faith, and that the Truth of those Aspersions on this Head, with which he was fo frequently bespattered, should be attested by many. To the last abominable Charge, his Virtue gave Rife. Whether from a Coldness in his Constitution, or what is more probable, out of Respect to his Ep -- 1 Function, he totally abstained from Women. It was impossible in a Country, which piques itself upon indespensable Attachments to the Fair Sex, that that this should not be taken Notice of, and become a general Topic of Conservation. His Enemies laid hold of this Opportunity to blacken his Character, with the Imputation of a Vice, the more easily credited, the more abominable; and to which some of his Connections, for which People could not easily account, did not a little contribute.

C—r, finding that his Poison had wrought the defired Effects, and that the Minds of the Public, as well as of the Cabal, were prepared to receive whatever Impressions he pleased to make, began to hobble abroad on his Cane:

With Visage black, and simp'ring ghastly Smile, The rueful Portent of impending Storms.

He convened the Cabal, and made a short but quickening Speech, to excite them to Revenge; the only Species of Eloquence in which he excelled; then he represented to them, that the D—ke of D—t, who had been appointed at this Time L—d L—t, was absolutely at the Disposal of the Pr.-m-e, that they could never hope to recover their Insluence over the Castle by gentle Means, that Threats and Terrors would be more essications than Entreaties, that they must exert their Power in some signal Instance, and shew, that none could act with Safety, but under their Protection; and he concluded by proposing Mr. N—l J—s as the first Vice D

tim of their Wrath. The Proposal was no fooner made than agreed to. A fitter Subject for the Purpose, could not be selected, than, Mr. N-1, whose haughty Carriage had given Offence to many. Through his Hands, as S--r--v-r G——I, much of the public Money had pass'd, for the erecting and repairing the B-ks, and most of the Work had been fradulently, and all of it unskilfully executed. The Character of Mr. N-- las to Honesty, then was, and still remains unfullied, but his Misfortune was, that he could not perfuade others to have the same Opinion of his Significance and Understanding, which he himself had entertained, and his Innocence had but little Weight, when put into the Scale against his Relationship to the Pr-m-'s first Favourite, and his Attachment to that Prel--e. The Pr--m--e, as had been foreseen by the Cabal, unfortunately for Mr. N-!, as well as for himself, undertook his Defence. This only ferved to draw on a stricter Inquiry, and a severer Punishment; the Defence was as unpopular, as the Profecution was the Reverse.

But the Cabal did not as yet determine to proceed to Extremities. The two principal Members of it were still desirous of leaving Room for a Reconciliation, upon advantageous Terms for themselves. They meaned not to make Things desperate, but only to shew what they could do, if they should

be reduced to Extremities. For that Reaforts this Profecution, in which the Expectation of the Public was much engaged, ended for the present in several severe, not to say, hard Refolutions, against the wretched N-1. The Cabal were however determined not to part with him thus. By a Resolution that he should make good the Contracts at his own Expence. they referved a Power to themselves, of refuming this Affair, at a future Day, if Occafion should require. The Pr--m-e did not comprehend the Extent of this last Resolution; and as he had more Apprehensions of Mr. N-l's Expulsion, than Uneafiness for the Character of his Friend, he submitted without Opposition, to Resolutions he in Truth had not Strength to prevent, and exulted as upon a Victory, that Matters had not been pushed farther.

The Cabal were not satisfied with this single Instance of their Power, and the Pr-m-'s Weakness. The C — ns, in an Address to his M — y, for which there did not seem to be the least public Occasion, glanced at the Pr-m-e, in a Manner that could not be mistaken, and at the Conclusion of the Session, took their Leave of the D-ke of D----

with unufual Coldness.

The Pr--m--e, though not a little mortified, was still happy that he had got over the simple of P the should acquire D 2 Strengton

Strength sufficient, not only to resist, but to overpower the Cabal. Invested with the whole Power of the Cr--n, and unawed by P——t during the Interval, he now governed the Church and State, without Controul.

But notwithstanding these great Advantages, contrary to his own, and the Expectations of others, he gained but little Strength; the Cabal counteracted every Thing he did, and with infinite Industry painted him in the most odious Colours, to all Denominations of Peo-

ple.

They likewise drew into their Party; and seemingly into their Considence, the E---l of K--d--e, a Nobleman of the first Rank and Fortune, whose Family had long been much respected by the People, and who had himself received a personal Disobligation from the Pr--m--e; whose Intrigues had not long before prevented him from being admitted to a Share in the Government. The Name of this Nobleman drew much Respect, and his

Con-

Connections in England, added great Strength

to the Party.

But what wonderfully recommended the Cabal to the Public, in a Country where Drinking is the prevailing Vice and principal Occupation, was the extraordinary Abilities of its Members in that strange Qualification. So agreeable and fo fuited to the Genius of the People was this Vice, that Mr. M---b--e, was not more respected for his Talents in the Sen---e, than for those of the Bottle. His Powers of fitting long, and bearing a great deal of Wine, were the Envy of every aspiring Politician at that Time. What he wanted in respect to the Entertainment of the Company, was abundantly made up by  $C-r_s$ whose Archness, Vivacity, and Wit, kept the Table in a Roar; to which his Figure, and exact Representation of Heraclitus ridens did not a little contribute. To him is ascribed the facetious Invention of conveying Satyr in Toasts, of which such wonderful Use was then made, by publishing them in the Newspapers, and dispersing them through the Kingdom. Thus were Business and Pleasure reconciled, and at the fame Time the Country Gentleman relished the Flavour of his Bumpers, he gulped down the most refined Apothegms of Politicks. Drinking in this Manner answered the Purposes of uniting the Company, and of sharpening the Wit and Malice of Individuals against the common Enemy.

During

During this Time, the Pr--m--e made not the Advantages of his Power, which might have been expected: He advanced into his Confidence, Men of moderate Abilities, and less Reputation: He rewarded the best Services by receiving them graciously, and his Countenance was turned rather towards those who were likely to do, than to those who had done him Services. He was accessible and courteous to all, but ther his Civilities were not proportioned to the Persons, and therefore the less regarded. But what principally offended several good Men, who were well inclined to him, was that he affected to talk too lightly of the Constitution, and with some Ridicule of publick Spirit. By these Means he rendered some of those who were most capable of ferving him, at least lukewarm in, if not totally regardless of his Interest.

As the Time of opening the Session approached, the Spirits of the Cabal, or rather of the People, for now they were one, rose higher, and those of the Pr-m-e sunk in Proportion. Apprehensive of Danger, he took some Steps towards an Accommodation; but they seemed only to instame Matters more. These Advances on his Part, and some Offers injudiciously made, and haughtily rejected, lessend the Opinion of his Power, and in-

creased that of the Party.

At length the wish'd for Time arrived; the S--ssi--n was opened, but not with that Vigor which was expected, and in Truth intended. The Cabal were the Night before

the.

the Meeting, alarmed by the Defection of a few of those on whom they depended. This made them doubtful of Success: A Defeat might be fatal; it was therefore thought more prudent to try their Strength upon Ground they had already fought upon with Safety; thus the favourite Profecution was again revived, and N-l after feveral unfuccesful Attempts in his Favour, expelled but by a Majority. This Victory was however far from being decifive. The Cabal faw with Concern, that their Strength was not fo much fuperior to the Pr--m--e's as they had reprefented, and in Truth believed it to be. For this Reason they thought expedient not to push Matters farther at that Time, but to wait for some more favourable Opportunity. However in some short Time after, the Strength of both Parties, as by mutual Confent, was tried upon an Election. Victory, for a long Time doubtful, declared at last for the Pr--m--e, by a Majority of one, to which Accident did not a little contribute, and gave to the House a Member who is an Honour

This was the first Defeat the Cabal had ever met with, and affected the very Foundation of all their Greatness. Something must be done to repair this Loss, the bolder the more likely to please the People. Extremities are always dangerous, but they are wise Measures when they are necessary. If the Session

Session should end quietly, the Success of the Pr-m-e would be infallible; the Interval between the Sessions would give him, who was armed with all the Powers of Government, sufficient Time to establish himself, and put it out of their Power ever to remove him. Besides most of their Troops were necessitous, and must be fed. The Cabal were but ill able to support those Expences, which they sound even then very grievous to them, and which were submitted to merely from

Necessity.

From these Motives, it was resolved by the Cabal to fart a Question about the Prerogative. In this they were fure of having the People on their Side. The Application of the redundant Money in the Treasury afforded a proper Opportunity for this Purpose. A Bill had passed the Session before for applying fome of the redundant Money in the Treafury, in discharge of Part of the National Debt, in which a Preamble was inferted by the K---'s Servant, which was not relished by the People: And for permitting which the Cabal had undergone f me Cenfure; but the Cabal were not at that Time drove to Extremities. The Majority of the Committee, appointed now to prepare Heads of a Bill for the like Purpose, were either Members of the Cabal, or under its Influence: So that it was determined to omit in this Draft, the Preamble which had been inferted in the former Bill. The

The Pr-m-e upon this occasion, fummoned a few of his most intimate Friends, to confult what Step should be taken. The only Doubt was, whether an Amendment in these Heads of a Bill, should be proposed to the House upon the Report, or whether they should be permitted to pass in the Shape they were brought in, and the Alteration of them left to be made in England. The latter of these Methods was resolved on, and followed, upon this Reasoning; if the Bill when altered in England, should upon its Return, be passed by the Commons, the Cabal must inevitably lose their Interest with the People: If the Cabal should oppose it, that would be a good Pretence to deprive them of their Employments, which they held at the Will of the Crown, and of which the Pr-m-e hoped to have the Difposal. To make the Game more secure, and to engage the Crown more deeply in the Contest, a Letter was procured to accompany the Bill to the Pr-v-y C---l, figned by most of the Officers of State, in Gr——t Br——n, declaring that, it was a Point of Pr-r-e, from whence his M---y would never depart. As Councils too fubtil often produce contrary and unthought of Ends, fo this, tho' it had the immediate Effects which had been foreseen, yet in the End it produced very different Confequences, from what he who gave it expected. The Bill was rejected in the Commons by a Majority of Five, in Consequence of which, several. feveral of the principal Members of the Cabal were immediately removed from their Employments: An Act the most unconstitutional as well as the most dangerous, which could be attempted. At these violent Proceedings the whole N-n took Fire. The degraded Members of the Cabal exalted by their Difgrace, became the Idols of the People, and were worshipped as Martyrs for the Liberties of their Country. In this Temper, it was hazardous, to let the Commons, who had been adjourned for a few Days, meet. The Par—t was fuddenly prorogued, and feveral Bills, equally necessary to the Crown as to the

Subject, fell to the Ground.

The Pr-m-e who was confidered as the Author of all these Measures, despairing to gain the Affections of the People, determined to awe them into Submission by others still more violent. He urged the D-e of D-t to remove from their Em—ts; not only all who opposed him, but those whom he sufpected to have any Connection with the Cabal. But the D-e had not Courage or Vigour of Mind equal to fuch an Undertaking. He dreaded the Tumults of the People, every Shout of the Mob threw him into Panics, and this being known, they never let him rest a Moment. However, for the present, to rid himself of Importunities, he promised the Pr—m—e, that upon his Return to E——d, which he wished for with the utmost Impatience,

tience, he would do every Thing he could defire. The D—e of D—t foon after this, under the Protection of the G—ds, and of a Mob hired and made drunk for the Purpofe, by a Man who was amply rewarded for that Service, by a P—f—n on the public Establishment, made his Escape out of this K—m.

The Pr—m—e who was continued in the G—v—t, employed every Expedient of Menaces and Promises to break the Party. Threats could not terrify those who had so bold an Example set before them by their Leaders, and who were secure of the Protection of the People. Rewards would not seduce those who foresaw the Downfall of the Pr—m—e, and were made to expect much greater, and more permanent Rewards, from the Exaltation of the Cabal, which they now looked upon as certain. But what principally kept Men steady, was the Disgrace of becoming Apostates from those Principles, which they had before considered with a kind of Religious Reverence.

The Indignation of the Public, was still increased against the Pr—m—e, by his injudicious Choice of Persons to fill the vacant Employments, in which he shewed more Inclination to gall his Adversaries, than Attention to serve himself. Upon this Principle alone can the Advancement of Mr. H——Il to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer be accounted for. Mr. S—g—n was equally obnoxious to the Person he was appointed to succeed; but what

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contributed most to his Promotion was, that it was thought he could not live many Months; and there was another ready to fill up his Place. Mr. St--d, a Man of more Vanity than Ambition, was prevailed on to undergo the odium of fucceeding Mr. M-l-e, by being told that his M-j-y had himself nominated him to that Office, and had begged that he would accept of it to oblige him. By these Promotions no new Strength was acquired, or old confirmed. The first of these Promotions shewed, what kind of Merit was the best Recommendation to the Pr—m—e. And every Body faw that the other two Persons, whose Understandings were much impaired by Years and Labor, were put into these Employments only for the present, that their Names might fanctify the Action. As the Pr-m-e daily became more odious, fo all who opposed him grew into Favor with the People. At length the Clamor became so universal and so outrageous, that the Constitution itself seemed threatened with some violent Convulsion.

The Person who had then the Direction of Affairs in E-d, was upon these Disturbances in I-r-d, seized with a Panic, of which it is said he is very susceptible, and determined to facrifice his Friend the D-e of D-t to his Fears. But tho' he condescended to gratify the People in that Particular, yet it was not out of any Affection he had for them, but rather on the contrary Principle, as appears by the

the Choice of the Person he sent in his Place. In this he seems to have followed the Example of Cæsar, who on a Disgust he had taken to the rebellious Africans, revenged himself by making the corrupt Salust their Governor; who did them more Hurt by his private Family, than a Conqueror would have done with the most numerous Army. The Downfall of the D—e of D—t, was not more pleasing to the Cabal, than the Appointment of his Successor, whose Promotion had been brought about by the Intrigues of Mr. F—x, with whom the E—I of K—d—e was known to be in the closest Union.

It is the Fate of Alliances which are produced only by the Spirit of Interest, that the fame Caufe which gave them Birth should destroy them with still greater Ease. The E-1 of B——b——gb, whose natural Sagacity is much improved by the Lights of Experience, invariably attentive to his own Interest, had long foreseen the Downfall of the Pr-m-e, and had determined not to be buried in his Ruins. In the mean Time however, and while the Pr-m-'s Power lasted, he thought it prudent to make the best Use he could of it, to enrich himself, and establish his Family Interest. Ever complaining, and expressing Jealoufies if any Thing was refused him, he forced the Pr-m-e (who was afraid of being suspected to intend, what in Truth he wished, to form a separate Party) to gratify him

him in all he defired. But the better to carry on the Farce, tho' one would think, that neither could be a Stranger to the Politics of the other, every Body who was promoted either in Church or State, took the Oaths of Allegiance to both, as if the Union was indiffoluble.

Nothing could be more favourable to the Politics of this fagacious E--l, than the Appointment of the M——Is of H——t——nto the Government. Thro' him he hoped to reconcile himself to the Cabal, and by the Affistance of the Cabal, he expected to raise his Son to the Chair of the H——e of Com—ns; tho' they had been the very Persons who had inflamed the Nation against him and his Family, whom they had by the most execrable Imprecations devoted to Destruction. But to remove Suspicions from the Mind of the Pr-m-e, he renewed all his Engagements with him, and most folemnly protested, he would stand or fall with him; adding to his Vows a Flood of Tears, as a Proof of his Sincerity.

At this Time a fecret Treaty was carried on and concluded between the new L—d L—t—t, and the two principal Members of the Cabal, before his Arrival in this K—m, thro' the E—l of K—d—e. To this Treaty the E—l B——b——gh, was not only privy, but was confenting. This Treaty was kept as fecret as possible. It was the Interest of all the Parties concerned in it, that it should be so; the di-

vulging

vulging it would defeat all the Ends proposed

by it.

But tho' this Agreement was made, much still remained to be done. Several Persons were to be managed, and Things were to be settled in Detail, which, as yet, were only agreed upon in the Gross: This required the L—d L—t—t's Presence here sooner than is usual. To guard against an Invasion, was made the Pretence for his coming.

Upon his Arrival every one hastened to pay their Court to the new G-v-r, and to obferve his Motions. He on his Part, received graciously, talked to, and careffed those, who had most violently opposed his Predecessor, while he treated with Coldness, and even Contempt, those who had courageously withstood the popular Torrent, in Defence of those Rights, which his M-y had most solemnly and most publicly declared, he never would depart from. A Policy that did not feem to fuit well, either with the Interest or Honor of his Master, though possibly some present Advantage might be reaped from it. It is not furprifing that this Conduct should be suspected by most People; it appeared to those who had been in Opposition, as a Feint only to amuse them, whilst his real Intentions, to which they did not doubt but his Actions would correfpond, were to favour his own Family, with whom they supposed the Pr-m-e inseparably connected. In these Suspicions they were confirmed by those of the Cabal, who were in the Secret; who the better to conceal what was intended, continued to encourage the groffest Abuse against the Family of the  $P-\int -by$ 's. On the other Hand, the P—m—e perfuaded his Friends, and possibly was so perfuaded himself, that the L-d L-t's Intention was only to gratify the Cabal for the present, and by that Means to break and disunite the Party; which he should no sooner have done, than he would take those by the Hand (that was the Phrase) whom he was obliged at present to discountenance, for Fear of discovering his Defign. Thus each Party rested fecure in their Leaders, waiting only for Orders when and how to act.

In the mean Time the Cabal talked of nothing but Impeachments and Expulsions. This answered two Purposes; It prevented the Public from suspecting what was really intended, and struck Terror into the Pr—m—e. The Leaders of the Cabal well knew that he would rest contented with the Loss of his Power, happy, if they stopped there. Such is the State of the most innocent Politician, that he must often do Acts, which will not bear a public Examination.

The L—d L—t—t, on the other Hand, affured the Pr—m—e of his Friend-ship and Protection: Told him; "He had "with great Difficulty prevailed on the Cabal" to consent, to drop the violent Measures "which

" which they had intended against him, but " it was upon Condition he fubmitted with Patience to their Power, and kept his " Friends filent; that for his Part, he was ob-" liged to yield to the Fury of the Times, and " countenance Men whom he detested. That as foon as the Party was broke, which he could effect only by this Compliance, he " should be at Liberty to restore the Pr--m--e to his former Power, which he should find rather if possible increased than lessened by " his Fall." It was in vain for the Pr—m—e to struggle. Besides the Danger to which it would expose him, it would disclose his Weakness to the Public. For in Truth his Party was principally made up of Placemen and Penfioners; Men dependant on the Court, who had more Affection for their Places than for him. He therefore thought it advisable to yield with a good Grace when he found himfelf overpowered, and, accordingly, promifed to support all the L-d L-t's Meafures; which he afterwards punctually performed, with more Zeal than (as was thought by fome) was either necessary or prudent. This Behaviour he was certain would be agreeable to fuch of his Friends, as had Places or Pensions, as it did not expose them to any Danger; But his Situation with respect to others, was very delicate. To inform them of what Part he had agreed to act, would endanger the Secret; by concealing it from them, E he

he run the Risque of losing their Affections, if it should ever come to their Knowledge afterwards. However, as to this last Particular, he determined to trust to his Dexterity. in which it must be confessed, he was eminent. He affected to be very open, to tell them all that passed between the L-d L-t-t and him. "That the Demands of the Cabal " were fo high, it would be impossible for the " L-d L-t-t to comply with them. "That the L-d L-t-t would be " obliged at last to recur to the Old Interest, to " which he was really inclined, but that he " was defirous first to try every Expedient to " bring about a general Reconciliation, which " he [The Pr-m-e] knew would be imprac-" ticable. That for his Part, he was resolved " not to enter into any Measures, without the " Knowledge and Concurrence of his Friends, " and in the Advantages of which they " should not be included. That he was ready " to purfue fuch Meafures as they should agree " upon, let the Dangers to himself be what " they might; for he was refolved to stand or fall with them. At Times [He faid] he " found the L-d L-t-t more re-" ferved, at others more communicative, in " Proportion as the Cabal was more or lefs " tractable. That in his Opinion, it was bet-" ter to wait the Issue of the Affair with Pa-" tience, than to embark precipitately upon " Measures which might throw the L-d I.---t---t " L-t-t intirely into the Hands of the " Cabal." Thus did the Pr-m-e amuse his Friends; -amused himself. The Session of Par-t drew near, he must now take fome public Part. The Night before the Houses were to meet, he fummoned his Friends together, and told them in a fludied Speech, "That the Time was not yet come when " vigorous Measures were to be attempted. "That to oppose, would be to act inconsistent " with themselves, who had hitherto sup-" ported the Measures of Government. That " besides, Opposition would be vain, as the " Cabal had fuperior Numbers; so that by " Opposition they would forfeit all the Merit " they had acquired with the Government by " former Services, and the Cabal would then " have the fole Honor of carrying the Bufiness "thro'; whereas by concurring in the Mea-"fures, they would share the Merit with "them."

Whilst the Pr—m—e took so much Pains to lull his Friends to Rest, Mr. M—l—e and the Sp—k—r were not less industrious to engage their Party, who were of less passive Spirits, in Pursuits which might divert their Attentions from Objects on which they dreaded less they should fall. For this Purpose, the Elections which had been disputed with much Acrimony in the Country, were of excellent Use in the House, and amused the Tail of the

Party. As to those of more Penetration, tho'

Mr. M-l-e and the Sp-k-r had obtained by their private Agreement what they most wished for themselves, yet it was necessary that some dangerous Mouths should be stopped, whose Expectations were very earnest, before the Seffion began, and this could not be eafily effected, every Man over-rating his own Services. To remove these Difficulties, the E—l of K-d-e, in private Concert with Mr. M-l-e and the Sp-k-r, proposed from the Com-e, to all the Members of the Cabal, at a general Meeting, certain Terms, which he faid the L-d L-t-would grant them; and upon fome of the Members hesitating, and not immediately acquiescing, he roundly declared, "that he thought them " as advantageous Terms as they had a Right " to expect, or any L-d L-t-t Power to " grant; and that if they were so unreason" able as to refuse them, he must beg Leave " to withdraw himfelf from them, and from " that Inflant should consider himself no " longer of their Party." This Declaration afforded Mr. M-l-e and the Sp-k-r a fair Pretence for advising, tho' with an affected Reluctance, an Acquiescence in the Terms proposed: To which it was now in vain for others to object.

What was expected, and, in Truth, was most reasonable, was, that all the displaced Ministers should be restored to their Employments; but that would not answer the Purpose

of Mr. M-l-e, who had never loft Sight of the Master's Place. C-r grown vigorous, and as it were young again, from the late Commotions, feemed to promife long Life. S - g - n, old, infirm, and worn out, appeared ready to drop into the Grave. Upon these Accounts, Mr. M-l-e privately prevailed upon the L-d L-t-t to propose giving C-r the Secretary's Place, which was then vacant by the Death of Mr. S-thw-ll; and to make it look fomething like an Equivalent for what was taken from him, an additional Salary with it; telling the L-d L-t-t at the fame Time, and which afterwards was publicly talked of, That it was enough for the The Propofal was accordingly Fellow. made, and no fooner made than disapproved of by C—r. He was then told by Mr. M-1-e and the Sp-k-r, that better Terms could not be had for him. He was obliged to acquiesce, perceiving clearly, that they had made their own Bargain, and that he must be contented with what they pleased to affign him.

Thus was the most active and most useful Engine of the Faction rewarded for his Services to them: The same Fortune seems to have attended him thro' the whole Course of his Life. Ever intriguing, never reaping any Benefit from his Intrigues; over-reaching

Men

Men of great Capacities, he himself often over-reached by Men of inferior Parts. Others he ferved, whilft the World thought he only intended to ferve himself. To him may be applied with some Propriety, that Adage of Swift; That some Men are possessed of Qualities which are serviceable to others, but useless to themselves: Like a Sun-Dial on the Front of a House, to inform the Neighbours and Passengers, but not the Owner within. What contributed to prevent his rifing in the State, was the Idea which all L-d L—t—ts had impressed on them in relation to one Part of his Character. was faid to be, by one L-d L-t-t, the very Mountnorris of the Age; "Who, " according to Clarendon, wrought himself " into Trust and Nearness with all Depu-" ties at their first Entrance upon their " Charge; informing them of the Defects " and Overfights of their Predecessors, and after the Determination of their Com-" mand, informing the State, and those " Enemies they usually contracted in that "Time, of whatfoever they had done " amiss."

C—r, however fensible of the Affront which he had received from his Compeers, accepted the Offers of the Castle with a good Grace, resolving to take the first Opportunity.

nity, which he did not think very distant,

of Revenge.

Nothing now remained for the Cabal, but to keep up some Appearances with the Tail of their Party in the House, and with the People without Doors. Impeachments and Expulsions had been promised, and were expected. But it was now faid by the Cabal, "that fuch Measures were too violent, " that fufficient was done in depriving the " Enemies of Ir-d, of the Power to " make any Attempt upon them." Among other Things it had been expected, that the Privilege of the People, in Opposition to the Prerogative of the Crown, which had been infifted upon the last Session, and which had inflamed Matters to the highest Degree, would be explained, vindicated, and fettled, by those Patrons of Liberty, who had now no longer any to oppose them. To this it was faid; "That had been fufficiently done " by rejecting the Bill, that it was not pru-" dent to push Things too far; that his "M--y had condescended to remove " from all Power, those who advised those " Meafures, which was implicitly acknow-" ledging the Privileges of the People. And " as the most convincing Argument of all, " it was faid, that the L-d L--t--t " had given Affurances that the same Que-" ftion should never again be revived." It must must be confessed if all his Gr---e's Promises had taken Effect, there could not be any Occasion for the like Question again.

An Address was prepared by the Cabal, containing a few Reflections upon the last L---d L---t, to gratify the People, and many Encomiums upon the prefent, to gratify him. But so complaifant were the Cabal, that they submitted to send this Address to E----d, for the Approbation of the Min-st-r there, before it should be moved in P--t. The Returns of the Messengers (for many were fent different Ways, for the greater Security and Dispatch) was expected with the utmost Impatience by the L---d L---t---t. Happily (otherwise the P-----t must have been prorogued) this Address arrived in a Fortnight, with Alterations, to which the Cabal with equal Servility fubmitted.

The Safety of the Pr-m-e, depended upon the Silence of his Friends, and their enduring with Patience, the Indignities offered them, which he had the Address to reconcile them to. The Exaltation of the B——gh Family, depended upon the Success of the L-d L-t-t's Administration, and therefore their whole Power was exerted to preferve it. Mr. M-l-e and the Sp-k-r had been gratified in every Thing they defired, but had not loft the Confidence of the People, as yet ignorant of the Treaty they had concluded. Moderate Men, attached to no Party, were pleased at feeing the Storm appealed, which had threatened the Constitution with Ruin, and hoped that when all was quiet, fome Regard would be had to the Public. C----r, and fome others, though discontented, knowing an Opposition would be fruitless, were foremost in promoting all the L-d L-t's Measures, with a View to leffen

lessen the Merit of their former Friends, now their most inveterate Enemies. There were a few who meaned well to the Public; but for want of a Leader, to which they had been accustomed, and fearing to appear in a small Body, the constant Terror of weak Minds, they run on with the Current.

History furnishes frequent Examples of such sudden Revolutions in popular Assemblies, such violent Changes, from one Extreme to the Opposite, and evinces the Truth of this Maxim: That a Multitude is much

easier missed than Individuals.

Had Mr. M—l—e the least Spark of that National Spirit, for which he was once honoured, this was the Time to have shewn it, when nothing could have been refused him. Then no one would have envied him the private Advantages for which be contracted. But instead of acting in this manly Manner, he privately discouraged, embarrassed, and opposed, every Thing that was proposed for the Benefit of the Public, without having Courage to do it openly.

In this Disposition of Minds, it is not surprising, that every Thing that was asked by the Court, should be readily granted. Tho the Tr—f—ry was full, the same Taxes were continued; but lest it should remain so, unlimited Powers for raising of Men,

and

and building of Fortifications were given. The Danger of an Invasion was found to be the most prevailing Argument, and therefore was urged upon all Occasions, even the

most trifling.

After all these Matters were settled to the Satisfaction of the L-d L-t-t, and the greatest Part of the Sessions had been wasted in Elections, to divert the Attention of the People from other Objects, the last Scene of the Entertainment was to be played. The Sp-k-r's Intention of quitting the Chair was fuddenly declared, and the unfortunate S-r A-r G-e was the last Person in the Kingdom who heard of it, tho' he had long declared himself a Candidate for it. Flustered at the News, he ran to Mr. M-l-e, who was prepared to receive him, and told him with much Coolness, that he was at his Service, but affured him it would answer no Purpose; and recommended it to him to make a Compliment of his Pretentions to the L-d L-t--t: Which Advice, without further Solicitation, he immediately followed. Thus the poor Knight was perfuaded by the fame Person, with the same Facility, to refign his Title to the Chair, with which he had been induced to aspire to it; and exposed himself equally to Ridicule, by attempting one, and relinquishing the other. Many Hours had F 2 not

not passed before he repented this hasty Step. The People were so enraged at this unexpected Turn, that they became clamorous in his Behalf, and if he had stood firm, he would have been well supported; not indeed from any Affection to him, but to disappoint those Measures, to which they were now, but too late, sensible, the Interest of

the Kingdom had been facrificed.

In this Manner was Mr. P-J-by, without Opposition, elected Sp-k-r, rather by the Weakness of his Opponent, than by his own Strength; but not without the Mortification of hearing several Negatives given to him, by some of the worthiest Men in the House. And upon this Account was Mr. B-le rewarded with an E-ld-m, and a Pen—n of Two Thousand Pounds a Year, for thirty-one Years, for quitting a Chair, and a Party, both of which he had been long since tired of.

Mr. M—l—e, who had facrificed his fimple Friend and Relation, was to fucceed Mr. B——le in the Chan—r—sh—p of the Ex—q—r, but the Outcry of the People against him, and particularly of his own Connections, forced him to decline it. However, even this he turned to his Advantage, if the common Opinion may be credited, that by private Contract, Mr. B—le, now E—l of Sh——n, continues in the

Office,

Office, and that Mr. M-l-e receives the Profits of it. This Artifice, tho' it did not restore Mr. M-l-e to the Favor of the People, yet it suspended their Resentment

against him.

It was now too late in the Seffions to form a Party to make Head against the united Force of so many Chiefs; but yet many Symptoms appeared of growing Discontents, and of a general Disapprobation of what had passed. Tho' no Resolution was carried which reslected on the Adm——n, yet there appeared almost an universal Satisfaction, when any Thing sharp was thrown out against the L—d L—t—t; which being observed, his Character was treated with much Freedom; a most mortifying Circumstance to a Chief Governor, as the like had never happened to any of his Predecessor.

Alarmed at these Prognostics of a rising Storm, he resolved to allow no Time for Mischies. Some Forms were still necessary to be gone through before the Session was to end. All the Artistices which could dishonour a Government, were used to waste the little Time that still remained; notwithstanding which, a Resolution was near passing, to vindicate the Honor of the Nation, if the Debate had not been cut short by the Ush--r of the Bl--k R--d.

Thus ended the Seffions, as ignominious for the L—d L——t——t, as it com-

menced unfortunate for the People.

The Eyes of the Public are now opened, the Spirit of Liberty has fucceeded to that of Faction.-\* Societies are now formed upon the Principles of the Constitution, not of Licentiousness, to examine into Men's Hearts, to inquire into real Grievances, and to point out the Methods of Redress.—The Cries of Faction are now drowned by the fuperior Voice of Liberty.—The People, no longer deluded by Party Leaders, expect Redress.—Towards You, My L-d, the Eyes of all are turned: - Upon you they depend for Support. From your just and faithful Representations of their Petitions to his M——y, they flatter themselves that the intolerable Grievances under which they labour, will have an End. What may they not hope for, from the Descendant of that Great Ruf—II, who died a Martyr to the Religion and Liberties of his Country. You are coming, My L-d, to govern a People (however contemptible and ungrateful they may be represented by some) powerful and generous; a People fensible of the Oppresfions they have fuffered, tho' enduring them with Patience, from the most inviolable Affection to their Royal Master. A

<sup>\*</sup> Freeholders and others.

People animated with the same Spirit of Freedom as those from whom they are descended. What greater Glory can there be, than to make such a People happy?

Per Populos, dare Jura.

Let the Examples of your G——'s great Ancestors, be ever before your Eyes. Depend upon the Nation, not upon a Faction, for your Support. Whilst the End of your Government is the Good of the Public, your Administration will be easy and light, not like that of your Pred——r, scandalous and unsettled. And permit me to recommend, from a very great \* Man, to your Gr—e, two Maxims which I am sure you must approve; That the Foundation of all good Politics is real Morality; and, That to dread no Eye, and to suspect no Tongue, is the great Prerogative of Innocence.

I am, My L—d,

ಆೇ. ಆc.

<sup>\*</sup> Lord Bolingbrooke.









