

therefore what that Ministry did, the preceding (of either Party) had no just Pretence not to have done before. No; the matter is, that vacant Flag was reserved for a Party Favourite, (whether Whig or Tory I cannot undertake to determine) and my obtaining it in that case has proved, for ought I know, to both Parties, an unpardonable Transgression.

For it would be to inform me, of what, by my acutest Penetration I could never discover, to let me know any extraordinary Favours I received from the Tory Ministry. I had no Consideration for my Loss, which was not a small one, when the *Edgar* was blown up, though I petitioned the Queen, and delivered the Petition into her own Hands; but that was stifled, and perished in its very Birth. They did not indeed take my half Pay from me, (and that perhaps, by some, may be thought a great Favour:) But while they had it in their Power, they might as well have made me one of the Admiralty, or Board of Trade, or given me an *American* Government, or sent me Envoy to one of the Princes or States of *Germany* or *Italy*; to any of which Posts I had as fair Pretensions, and (for ought they or I know) for Learning, Judgment and Experience, might have been as well qualify'd to serve in, as some they preferr'd to them.

I am sure I had so little prospect of any Employment under their Administration, that, having made it more my Business, while at Sea, to serve my Prince and Countrey than enrich my self, the narrowness of my Fortune, not allowing me to live in *London*, in a Port suitable to my Character, and like the rest of my Brethren, I retired into the Countrey some Months before the Queen's Death, where I contented my self to live upon
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