

longer believed? That may be true with respect to the characters of individuals; but we may rest assured, that the unbounded freedom which has been used has lessened the respect due to the Sovereign; has destroyed that reverence in which the legislature should be held; and, while it has overawed the magistrate in the execution of his office, it has, at the same time, impaired the dignity and weakened the force of the laws themselves. We may be certain, that this rampant licentiousness has overturned all ideas of subordination, which is the bond that holds men in society together, and prepared their minds to meet, without concern, if not to wish for, a revolution of government.

How can we otherwise account for the publications that have proceeded from men of gravity, of professedly good intentions, and of no mean talents *? With what other view, than to a revolution, have those elaborate treatises been composed; or what other can be the aim of their authors, who, amidst
pro-

* See the works of the Reverend Dr Price, and others.