

compatible with *Greatness*. Consuls and Dictators despised Wealth as heartily as they despised an Enemy.

*Privatus illis Censur erat brevis
Commune magnum.*

The Case of this Country is unfortunately the Reverse; And I hope we shall never imitate *Roman* Pride, without the smallest Pretension to *Roman* Virtue. If we are ready enough to admire the military Perfections of *Rome*; we are not less so to boast of her Laws and of her Liberty: But by one of the Laws of the *Twelve Tables*, a capital Punishment was enacted against the Publishers of defamatory Compositions: It is contained in few Words; *Si quis Carmen occentassit, quod alteri Flagitium faxit, Capital esto.* Cicero declares his full Approbation of this Law; *Præclare; Judicis enim ac Magistratuum Disceptationibus legitimis, propositam Vitam, non Poetarum Ingeniis, habere debemus; nec Probrum audire, nisi eâ Lege, ut respondere liceat, et Judicio defendere.* Our own Laws are particularly tender of every Man's Reputation: The Reason is sensible and evident; The Character of a Man is his Property; and it is the noblest that he can possibly acquire; A Jury of *Englishmen* will in most Cases consider any great Injury done to the Fame in the same Manner as if it had been done to the Fortune of another. If a fair and honest Name is dear to the meanest Individual, I presume it is equally so to those who fill an high Station,
and