

hope, more than sufficient to establish in the reader's mind never failing principles of gratitude to his Majesty, I shall only observe, that Subjects bound to their King by the ties of gratitude and affection, are the only Subjects whose homage is acceptable to a nation like Great-Britain, that conquers but to ameliorate the condition of the vanquished.

THE people of this Province inherit their full share of the advantages which flow from the British Constitution, and are bound to unite with their elder brethren for its preservation and defence. It is no common warfare in which we are now engaged; our natural enemy has drawn forth his whole strength for the ruin of our nation, and British subjects have at this moment to fight for their national existence, which our enemy has solemnly vowed to destroy. If Britain falls it is easy to foretel the fate of America; we may in such case bid farewell to religion and liberty, arts and sciences, virtue and honor; for many dark ages must follow the triumph of infidelity and barbarism. I am not induced to make these last observations from an apprehension that when the day of trial comes, we shall want spirit to defend our country; on the contrary, I am confident that the hardy sons of Nova-Scotia, will eagerly rush to the battle; to doubt it would be to doubt that we are the legitimate offspring of a race of people, whose courage and bravery stand recorded on almost every page of history. But I do not consider that the strength of a nation depends altogether on the native bravery of its people; the religious and moral virtues of a nation are its great security and defence. In the history of the world we read with pleasure and astonishment, of the wonderful exertions which have been made by nations eminent for those qualities; on the other hand, those dreadful national calamities, the history of which we can only contemplate with horror, may easily be traced from the earliest times to the present, to have uniformly proceeded from the want of religion and virtue in the people; the courage of men of this last description is nothing more than the ferocity of a savage, but the man who has a just sense of his duty to God and his King, stands firm in the midst of danger, exercising the powers of his mind with cool deliberation, and executing his purposes with that fortitude which will ever accompany the man who is brave from a sense of duty. In no way can we more effectually manifest our love and attachment to the King, than by punctually obeying his laws. It is the duty of an English Subject in this respect, not merely to attend to his own conduct, he is also bound to observe the actions of others; for this purpose our Constitution has wisely provided, that all men, high and low, are in some shape or other called to assist in the execution of the Laws, some as Justices of the Peace, others as Jurors, Constables, or in an endless variety of different offices and stations. The wisest and best of Kings, with all the State Officers appendant to his high rank and station, would, without such help, be unable to execute our Laws. English jurisprudence considers that man as criminal, who sees the Law transgressed, and conceals the offence; in such case the Laws would soon fall into disuse; and if offenders were suffered to pass with impunity, the Law instead of being the standard to guide men's actions, would only be enforced occasionally, as the caprice or malice of individuals might direct. There is no principle that operates more powerfully in support of the British Constitution, than the reverence and respect with which an Englishman views the Laws of his Country, in the execution of which he exerts himself with a degree of zeal that is habitual to him. This principle is so powerful in the breast of every man, that it is common to see a single Constable with his staff disperse a mob, even when their passions are in a high state of irritation; and it is an event which seldom happens, that a Peace-Officer is molested in the execution of his duty, or that the bye-standers refuse him their assistance. Every person in this Province should consider it his duty to imitate, with the greatest care, this excellent example, and thereby effectually provide for the equal and impartial administration of the Law: which is the only political equality that man can enjoy in civil society. If apathy pervades the minds of the people as to the execution of the Laws, and if they see them violated, and broken, without any exertion to bring offenders to justice, the virtues of the King, the wisdom and integrity of his Judges, and the honest zeal of all his Public Officers, will have but a small effect, when the people do not themselves co-operate.