

At the finish of the session he cannot receive the re-nomination, for the reason of his not making good his numerous promises. Give a member freedom to exercise his own judgment, conscience and will-power, and, if he is sincere in his desire to do his duty, his constituents will not suffer.

The common opinion to-day, even amongst educated people, is that Parliament is but a congress of ambassadors from different and hostile interests, which interests must be maintained regardless of the cost or injury or injustice to the other agents or advocates present from other constituencies. On the contrary, it is an assembly where diverse interests hold no important part. Rather it is a deliberative body in which union of interests, of nations, of creeds, holds first and lasting consideration. No local purposes, no local prejudices, should rule the minds of its members; but the general good should always be the prime object of its deliberations.

Burke says to be a good member of Parliament is no easy task. This is especially true, when we look at the conditions of England at the time of Burke's service. He represented the thriving commercial city of Bristol during very troublesome times. The United States were on the verge of a rebellion. The commercial interests of Bristol were centred chiefly on American trade. Contrary to instructions from Bristol, Burke voted that liberal concessions be made to America, and that her trade be less restricted. If these concessions were granted, Bristol would suffer greatly industrially. Burke listened, not to the impassioned demands of his hot-blooded constituents, but rather to his cool sense of justice for the oppressed. This conscientious and honest act of his cost Burke his re-election as a member, but that did not deter him from acting always for the greater good of the majority of people in America, in opposition to the lesser number in Bristol who would have profited had he acted otherwise. Taking, as an example, this action of Burke's, it is evident that a good member must put aside his own feelings, his local interests, and always keep before his mind that he is a member for a great nation, whose wide-spread interests must ever be considered, must be compared, must be reconciled when at all possible. Above all, he should not forget that he is a member of a Monarchy, whose rights, and those of the King, must be preserved diligently. "A constitution," says Burke, "made up of balanced powers must ever be a critical thing. As such I mean to touch that part of it which comes within my reach." So should it be with all representatives in Parliament.

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