

admit us rashly to pronounce on their several degrees of virtue and ability, yet it requires little consideration to point out some, in whom public confidence ought never to abide. It requires little experience to assure ourselves, that those who most vehemently *oppose*, are not, for that *reason*, alone the fittest to direct the measures of Government ; nor ought vice to be honored, malevolence praised, or treachery rewarded, merely because the person adorned with such qualities, employs them in the glorious service of opposition.

To proclaim the errors, and triumph in the failures of Government, have long been the favorite topics of party declamation ; and there never, perhaps, was a time in which so loose a reign was given to the impetuosity of political resentment. That men, who have so little regard for the credit and repose of others, should arrogate to themselves an *inviolable sanctity*, is a caprice, so unaccountably ridiculous, so preposterously unjust, that it must be left to their *own explanation* ; for should a single error in their conduct be shewn, should the *abilities* of the *meanest*, or the *integrity* of the *best* of their *phalanx*, be called for a moment into question, the sacrilegious attempt shall draw on its devoted author, the harshest epithets that ever were combined by rhetorical acrimony. But it is not by any illiberal imputation that disgrace can be affixed to the freedom of just enquiries, and remarks : an impartial observer, will rather applaud the justice of those who mark the features of political treachery, and develop the intrigues of factious cabal, in whatever party they discern them ; who, by an honest endeavor to separate false pretences from real merit, by warning their country against malignity, never to be countenanced, and perfidy, never to be trusted, have made