

thing less." As this is the great pillar on which your Lordship and your friends have thought fit to lean ; as this is the general argument by which you have lately agreed to justify the present plan of extirpating the Americans, or bending them beneath the conqueror's yoke, I shall take the liberty to examine it with some attention. That I may do justice to your reasonings on this subject, and through you to the reasonings of the visible ministry, who, on this occasion, are certainly directed by that secret confidential corps which you have formed, I shall collect into one point of view the sum of what you have delivered in defence of the American war, in your noted speech of November last on the capture bill, and in your late memorable speech on the Duke of Grafton's motion ; for they tended to the same object, they were founded on the same hypothesis.

Conscious I am, that in this humble disquisition, in which I appeal to the honest, the virtuous and disinterested part of this nation, I shall come far short of your Lordship in elegance of language, clearness of diction, and flowers of rhetoric ; but I shall, for this reason among others, try to differ from your Lordship in another particular of some consequence ; I shall deal in facts not in conjectures. Though every thing that is offered by your Lordship falls from so great an eminence that it cannot fail to make its impression on the public, yet I shall