

In listening to and partaking of these amicable altercations, I have observed with great surprise, that there are numbers who do not at all understand the state of the question : now as I think if ever any political question could admit of being rendered simple and clear, it is that which at present is in dispute, I must beg that such as wish to decide upon it fairly and honestly, and are not predetermined that reason shall have no effect upon them, will listen to what I have to say ; I will be as short as I can, and I will attempt no oratory, for I desire not to persuade, but to convince ; and I will endeavour to assume no fact that is not universally allowed, nor to draw any conclusion that is not fair and obvious.

The actual Government was fixed at the Revolution. The tyranny and bigotry of the King had dissolved the contract between him and the people. A new King was called ; but, before the Crown was conferred upon him, such restrictions of the prerogative, and such declarations of the rights of the people, were insisted upon as might for the future confine the royal power within its due bounds. Little or no alteration was made in the form or theory of
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