

If these wicked and misguided men could have succeeded in their treacherous purpose, what evils might we not have expected? If experience, my Brethren, has a warning voice, we certainly may profit by her call. She directs us to a strong and awful example. What was the result of such proceedings in a nation bordering on Britain? Did not they commence their reign of destruction and bloodshed, by undermining every religious principle? Did they not first attack the Altar, and afterwards overturn the Throne? And when the ruin was completed, did the pretended friends to liberty, bestow on their fellow countrymen those boasted but absurd "Rights of Man," that liberty and absolute equality they had promised them? Did they make them more happy or more free?—Oh! no! Persecution and bloodshed was now their lot. A mock trial and a bloody axe stopped their complaints and silenced their remonstrances. The dagger of the assassin was openly plunged, not only into the hearts of men, but with all the rage and brutal ferocity of fiends, was it planted against the bosoms of unprotected women, of harmless innocents, and venerable age. Every feeling of humanity was lost; every tie of kindred or friendship was severed; and the scowling frown of distrust marked every brow. Nay, to such an incredible height of rebellion and blasphemy did their bloody and reprobate minds carry them, that even in their boasted and enlightened Senate, was it proposed with unbounded acclamations and applause, to make Atheism a part of the public education of youth. But to what did all this irreligion and destruction bring them in the end? They were reduced to abject slavery; and finally their Country became the seat of war, and their very Capital the abode of their enemies. Would any of my hearers, any who value the happiness of their Country, wish to see Great-Britain involved in such misery and destruction? If they would not, let them bless and honour our lawful Ruler; let them pay implicit obedience to the Laws of the Land; let them support with sincerity and zeal the good order of society, and the peace of the realm. Men there *have been* who sought our ruin.—Men there *are** (if we may believe the intelligence which has just reached us) who can herd together for the purpose of blood and murder; who with the cool delibera-

* *The news of the Cato-street Conspiracy had very recently arrived.*