

noted by many as sanguine in their faith—and their failure desolated England, France, and Germany, with poverty and wretchedness. Those bubbles burst, opulent families were, in an instant, reduced to beggary, every class felt, in some degree, their mournful effects, and were plunged in the abyss of ruin. With such examples before our eyes, and the corroboration of many of the same nature in America, will it be wondered if the present Establishments afford matter for serious contemplation and alarm. Accustomed to speculation in individuals, caution is suspended, and every Association that will promise an increase of fortune will be congratulated with omens of partial approbation.

Against the tide of these prevailing yet destructive associations, some influence is necessary which the pen may point out, but cannot command. In vain may genius deplore the results that may be foreseen, and the powers of declamation return impotent and exhausted, the concurrence of opinion may silence the orator—conviction be opiated by interest—and even party spirit be lulled in security, or turned from its point to retain unanimity for other measures.

If the comprehensive minds of Mr. Fox and Mr. Burke, in their India Bill, could see sufficient to direct an enquiry in the House of Commons upon the affairs of the East India Company, with how much more justice may Legislative interference be exerted in this country. Party zeal betrayed them into an indiscretion, that even the persuasive eloquence of their appeal could not combat. They advocated oppressive and unconstitutional measures against chartered rights, purchased and sanctioned by Parliament, where the property of the Stockholders could not be proved to be in any danger. With regard to the Banks in this country, unprejudiced reason can draw no parallel.

It therefore only remains for some impartial member of the present Parliament to do his duty. The general interests and safety of the public, demand this sacrifice of private feeling. The House ought to order a Committee of Inspectors, or Auditors of their Accounts; or *enjoin, beyond future altercation, the responsibility of the Directors and Stockholders to all the*