

TO THE
EARL OF SHELBURNE,
Esq. Esq. Esq.

MY LORD,

IF I address the following sheets to your Lordship in preference to any other person of eminent rank, or distinguished talents, it is assuredly neither from any motives of interest, or any propensity to flattery. You have been selected from among the croud of nobility who surround the throne, to conduct the affairs of a mighty empire, which, though it has sustained the rudest shocks, and suffered numerous dilapidations, is still sublime and magnificent in ruin. You have undertaken this arduous employment at a moment big with internal discord, and external calamity, beyond the example of former