

absent from their posts; and to the not giving orders for raising miners for the defence of fort *Saint Philip*, till the 30th of *March* 1756. Won't an injured nation be apt to think, that these resolutions were taken by men, who had no will of their own, and held their seats in parliament by ministerial tenure, and not by the free choice of the people? Because it does appear from the original papers laid before them, that the ministry, in their several departments had *very early* and *clear* intelligence of the preparations and strength of the enemy in the ports of the *Mediterranean*, as well as of those armaments that were carrying on along the coast of the *British* channel: and that there was no want of ships, nor of men for sea or land service to have defended our own coast, and to have repelled all attempts the *French* were able to make against any part of the *British* dominions.

BUT this will be more conspicuous from the following minutes faithfully extracted from those very papers; on which the free and independant representatives of the people grounded their negative to the above recited resolutions; and are thus published in justification of their conduct in a case of the greatest concern to their constituents; and to enable every rational and unbiaised Elector to discern how far the wisdom and integrity of their representatives, who have skreened the objects of their country's resentment,