

Some of them, I am told, say they gave their votes against me, because of my speech, although they had decided it not being offensive; so much for consistency and honor, when private pique and party feeling get the better of truth and justice. Now good people of Gore, I am a native of this province, I served as a soldier during the last war, I have ever since resided in the country. It is my misfortune to have enemies, and it is the misfortune of those enemies, I say it is their misfortune to be vindictive. Any one that knows the animosity rankling in the breast of Dr. Baldwin and the Rolphs towards me, will be at no loss to unravel the whole of this strange conduct. I knew and felt their object. I saw that under pretence of right, they were trying to trample on me. I saw that under the false pretence of contumacy, and under the fictitious plea of privilege, they were seeking to wreak vengeance on one exposed, but no more exposed than every other individual to wanton abuse. I saw that to gratify such low purposes, and to ruin me in your esteem, they endeavored to wring from me sentiments which they hoped would be obnoxious to you. They saw that in me, a humble inhabitant of Gore, they were assailing the rights, liberties and characters of the whole District, and I was resolved, come what might, I would not be the first of her free sons to prove traitor to her liberties, the base deserter of my country's rights. For this I am here. It is not because I would not answer the idle and absurd questions proposed to me, for if so, why was I not called upon for a defence, before conviction? It was because I would not libel you. It was because I would not crouch to my personal foes, clothed in their little brief authority, and the assailants of your rights. It was because I was too independant to succumb to the oppressors wrong, that they have done this. The case is before you, the freedom of the country is infringed, the rights and liberties of the subject are trampled in the dust by those who ought to be