

bers of faction and ambition to increase the flames of public discord! The cap of liberty (like the serpent in the Wilderness) has been held up for the weak and credulous to gaze at, while the artful and designing have endeavoured to support the airy phantom, by piles of false and inconsistent publications, created to amuse and misguide the people to their ruin.

How far they have succeeded is well known; how much farther they may go is uncertain; but surely it becomes the duty of every good member of the state, to exert his endeavours to terminate the painful contest.

Upon this principle only, the compiler of the following sheets thinks it incumbent on him to lay them before the Public, thereby to shew the people, how grossly they have been abused by a few factious leaders of the American Congress, who justly merit their utmost indignation: to convince mankind that Britons cannot be cruel, and to justify the conduct of the king's servants from the foul aspersions cast on them by the reports and resolves of the Congress, stated to the Public*,

* Vide Public Advertiser, Monday, December 23d, 1776.