

Sword, but with Laws recently made, and fabricated for the purpose. Could we indeed have foretold that such a Rebellion would ever have existed; that America, forgetting her dependance on this Country, would have raised her arm against the Parent that supported her; we might then have been prepared in every way either to prevent or chastise her ingratitude. Laws can only be made when occasion calls them forth. The unsuspecting confidence of England with some reason imagined, that such a crime would never have been perpetrated: Like the Law-givers of old, they flattered themselves that an offence so enormous as that of Parricide would never have existed in Society. The rapid progress, however, of human wickedness convinced them of their mistake;—and it was then found necessary to enact punishments adequate to the crime. But violent, Sir, as these laws against the Colonies may be in your opinion, their violence will cease, when they cease to deserve them. The gentle current of Government will soon return to its serenity. It was the torrent of American Rebellion that forced us to erect banks to resist its impetuosity.

I pass over your occasional abuses of the present Ministry, because, Sir, they are natural to your situation. It is, however, somewhat unfortunate that Mr. Burke should reprobate all abuse of men merely as Ministers, and then be guilty of what he condemns.

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