

ring (then Major Scott,*); the question for an impeachment was at length before the house—*then*, for the first time, Mr. Pitt gave way, and voted with the opposition, “that one of the articles contained sufficient matter to ground an Impeachment.” The human heart is inscrutable to man, but I am not without an opinion, (if I do not offer one) upon Mr. Pitt’s motives. He is gone to answer for his justice, and sincerity towards Mr. Hastings, before that tribunal, where as “all hearts are open;” it cannot be concealed, whether he was influenced by a consideration, that, *unless* Mr. Hastings had been impeached, he could not have been impeded from possessing the places, profits, and honours, which have since employed, enriched and dignified Lord Melville. The impeachment commenced, and to the eternal disgrace of this country, lasted seven years, and three months, when Mr. Hastings was acquitted, with only six dissenting voices. Sir, a trial of such duration—protracted by every art of ingenious malice, at so ruinous an expense to the individual—carried on with progressive rancour, insult, and brutality—excited disgust, and abhorrence—humanity made common cause with Mr. Hastings; the mingled sensations of res-

* This gentleman, has left on record, a proof of friendship, affection, zeal, and unceasing industry for Mr. Hastings, which is altogether unexampled, and although I am inclined to believe that Mr. Hastings merited it, yet the fact is equally singular and honourable—I trust that Mr. H. has been grateful for it.