

the law states to be enforced, is to commit an absolute breach of that law, which ought to be the directing guide to every man, possessing the power to enforce it. A justifiable excuse cannot be made, in support of the actions of a thief, because the most ignorant of mankind, in a land where civil order abounds, know what does not lawfully belong to them, before they become very capable to steal. A justifiable excuse cannot be made in favour of men, holding official power, overstretching the bounds of duty, because to plead ignorance for them, would be to plead in favour of neglect. Both are alike determined, to do what is not lawful to be done, and both are guilty of a breach of law.

Of the absolute conduct of the magistrates, as directors of the town affairs, and of their neglect and partial decisions, as magistrates, I have stated several facts, set forth from self experience, and to these facts, I have added several more. Not as necessary to convince you of the truth, of what I have before stated, for I know that those of you, that have resided some time in the town, cannot be totally ignorant, of the absolute conduct of the magistrates. And I do not think that many of you, can be totally ignorant of the want of amendment, in the government of the town. And to procure the necessary amendments to our town laws, every individual well disposed towards our constitutional rights and interests, must feel desirous. Constitutional rights I say—for if the law of constitution, granted by the British Parliament to this Province, contains any semblance to the common rights, secured to the people, by the British

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