

abuse of power by some amongst you. If it were necessary to aggravate, or if it were not the purpose of this address during the present alarming crisis to conciliate, I could state at large the sources of these misfortunes, and how they are imputable to those now in power.

But I dismiss the subject of administration, upon the firmest assurance that a proper time will soon come for a serious investigation into their conduct; and although I disdain to anticipate their condemnation, *I shall make no apology for questioning their innocence.*

The principal objects of public concern, which will be very early in the sessions submitted to your deliberation, are, the war with France, Spain, and America—the state and requisitions of Ireland—and the security of the British empire in all its parts. It is true, I could add to these the confirmation and strengthening of our domestic liberty; but that is an internal and independent subject, full of minute detail, which may be better explained in a separate pamphlet.

It is not my intention to trace the progress of the war in which we are engaged up to its first source—the discontents in America, and the blocking up the port of Boston.

I do not mean to justify America, or to accuse Great Britain. But it would be still further from the duty of an Englishman to suppress the real condition in which, after a twelve years peace, the Parliament of Great Britain, upon inquiry and trial, have found the navy, our stores, and the bulwarks of our national security—or what administration has provided since our engaging in the war, and after a perseverance in it for five years—I state the facts as they are, not to hasten the vengeance which will find out and punish the authors