

The political system adopted immediately on your arrival, does not indeed owe it's origin to the fertility of your own invention. On the first account of your defeat and surrender, the consternation and grief universally excited by such an opprobrious calamity, was deemed by opposition the most favourable occasion to introduce a new charge against their adversaries; and the Secretary for the American department was chosen as the principal object of this partial, anticipated, and unsupported censure. Thus was the track of your future conduct previously prepared, and industriously delineated. But whilst every art of political management was exerted, and every sinew strained to procure a fresh instrument for the purposes of party; it was, I believe, the wish of every friend sincerely zealous for your honour, and really attached to your welfare, that you might spurn with contempt such unworthy, such ineffectual means of justification. Unhappily the allurements of party connexions was too strong to be counteracted by the influence of candour and discretion. The accusation of ministers appeared to you the necessary engine of your own defence: and though it was not easy to shew the defect and error of a plan, assented to, and acted upon by yourself; though it could not be denied, that you were furnished with every requisite