

But what need I say any thing more upon this head, when both Houses of Parliament have lately expressed their detestation of libellous offences so strongly, as to put the writing of a libel upon the footing of an *actual* breach of the peace, and not merely of the doing of something that may, by possibility, produce a breach of the peace, or that tends to, or may excite people to break it. Whether any body is, or is not, provoked by writings under this denomination, to do any thing in consequence thereof, such publication alone (as I conceive) is nevertheless, within the spirit of their resolution, to be proceeded against as an *actual* breach of the peace. So that if any Member write any thing that reflects upon the Administration, the Attorney General has it in his power to denominate what is so written a Libel, to file an Information *ex Officio* (that is, of his own mere authority, without leave from any Court of Law, Presentment of a Justice of Peace, finding of a Grand Jury, or information upon oath from any person whatsoever) against the supposed writer, and the Court of King's Bench will thereupon immediately grant a warrant for his apprehension, and he will be obliged, by virtue thereof, not only to find bail, that is, pledges for his appearance before a Jury, to try the truth of the charge ; that is, to submit the matter to the judgment of his country, but also [as I collect from the arguments used upon the occasion] to find sureties for the peace, or his good behaviour in the mean time, as a creature of so violent and pernicious a disposition, that the world cannot be in safety, if he be permitted to go at large, without very sufficient caution and assurance for his peace-