

his conduct; but, on the contrary, was always ready and forward to lay all his measures before the public. He spoke his mind freely on all occasions. He neither dissembled nor encouraged dissimulation; and yet he was of such unshaken secrecy, that, during the whole of his administration, he gave no opportunity to the most willing of discovering his designs to the enemy. In his hours of leisure he conversed with men of knowledge and experience: he sought information; and by it, together with his own unwearied assiduity and amazing penetration, he regulated the great machine of government; ever attached to the interests of the people and the honour of the crown. In a word, he was the spirit of the war, the genius of England, and the comet of his age.

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