

portrait of the wealth of the state and the fecundity of its resources, as at that moment—at the very moment when he announced a measure of government—which is an implied contradiction of his own magnificent representation.

It is one of the most striking features of Mr. Pitt, that he never abandons a favourite pursuit, without giving a thousand reasons against his own determination.

If this country is in the state he affirms it to be, why, (to quote himself again) does he “supplicate France” *more at this time*, than at any period of the last four years?

If the commerce and revenue are as he describes them, why desert the usual course of loans and funding?

His answer to the first was indeed *sui generis*. Studious so to post himself in the parliamentary battle as to avoid their contact who could tread him under foot, he manœuvred so as to be his own catechiser; and dismissed all inquiry into his imperious refusal to negotiate at any previous juncture of the war, with this syllogism. “Does it follow that we should not treat with France now, because we have not treated before?”—Such is the answer of this worthy gentleman, after a sacrifice without example of British money, blood and honour!

No words but his own could convey an idea of the variegated abundance, and unprecedented fortune