

to submit the reasons of his judgment to the tribunal of public opinion, which, sooner or later, will reach with its avenging hand, every culprit who deserts his country in the hour of trial.

To that enlightened and independent portion among you whom no earthly consideration can deter from the performance of the high duty which now devolves upon you, the present address is a work of supererogation. In whatever shape & whatever time the first decisive demonstration of friendship or hostility to the late ministry is made, you will be found at your posts, and your judgment will be such as to ensure you, to your latest hour, the approval of your consciences, and the applause of your country.

To such of you as may have taken your stand among the hostile ranks, under a conscientious belief of the correctness of your course, and whose motives and characters are above suspicion, (for many such there are,) an earnest and solemn appeal is made, and the only one which propriety, and a due regard for your integrity and independence will permit, namely, that you will make up your minds after a fair and impartial consideration of the case, stripped of every foreign and sinister influence, and render that judgment which you yourselves would expect at the hands of others, were you placed in similar circumstances.

But to those among you who are ever found marshalled on the side of authority, by whatever hand the sceptre may be wielded,—whose loyalty and whose patriotism take their tone from your official Master, whose life is but a tablet stereotyped in acts of servility to the “powers that be,”—and whose souls are impervious to the anathemas of public opinion, (for some such there are,)—to you I say, hold on inflexibly your undeviating course of tergiversation upon every measure and principle, save your single-eyed allegiance to the automaton of the hour. Beware that you do not betray the cause of the “Compact” and of your