

therefore, to have been followed as the basis and sure foundation of all good government in this country, of which they afforded so recent and so distinguished an example; and you should have considered as your worst enemy the first man who removed the smallest stone in the structure of this solid fabric. Strange as it will tell to posterity, this *body of experience* was not sapped by degrees, but at once, totally and in all its parts overthrown, by those who were called to the administration speedily after his present Majesty's accession; and every public measure of any importance pursued in the present reign, with the exception which I shall have occasion to mention hereafter, hath been founded upon principles directly opposed to it. As if the public happiness were a subject of envy to the courtiers then for the first time brought forward, the conduct which had produced it was to be reversed, and a fresh trial was to be made of
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