

so applicable to the People and present State of this Country, that the great Difference of the Names of those Persons who lived, and Places which existed Two Thousand Years ago in *Greece*, have not sufficient Power to withhold my Imagination from being imposed on by the Similitude of Manners; or restrain me from believing, that I am reading the History of *Englishmen*, and the present Age.

WHEN I see this Patriot Orator generously upbraiding his degenerate Countrymen with universal Venality and Loss of public Virtue; describing them drown'd in Floods of Self-love, Pleasure, and public Shows, supinely negligent of their Country's Welfare; contemning the Merit of all other Nations themselves arrogant and self-sufficient in Excess; preferring private Opinion to established Wisdom; idolizing Mortals in Power and irreverent to their Gods: What Eye so dim that cannot distinguish the Analogy so manifest between the *Athenians* of his Time, and the *English* of ours? What Mind so stupid as not to foresee the same Events?

IT seems evident from all I can gather, that the Strength, Happiness, Military, and Civil