

and Improperities of this kind are continually falling from the Pen of a *middling* Author. Which is a Fault the more inexcusable, as in the *British* Language every Idea has its appropriate Term. From whence it happens, that if we indiscriminately make use of Words ever so little above, or ever so little under Par, we may frequently have the Misfortune to say one Thing, when we mean another, which, by a special Figure in Rhetorick, is called Absurdity. But Men in Proportion to their Love of Garrulity, are generally, as *Horace* observes,

————— *Pigri ferre laborem*
Scribendi recte. —————

Page 18. “ *Whoever* then shall endeavour to set in a clear Light the Utility or Destruction which may follow from a Law before it is enacted, will undoubtedly be considered with a favourable Eye.” This is a Concession, I believe, that will not altogether so easily be granted. For the Word *Whoever* is a Term of very extensive Latitude, and implies a general Rule without one Exception. Now with Respect to judicial Examinations, it is wisely provided by our Laws, that no Weight or Regard whatever shall be given to the Evidence of *certain Persons*. And doubtless the same Objections lie against *certain Authors*. For in order that an Author be favorably heard, it is necessary that he either be a Person of known Probity, or that the Facts which he relates be indisputably true. If by the Virulence or Scurrility of his Writings he becomes suspicious of Partiality, his Testimony ought no more to be considered, than that of a *British* Outlaw, or a *Spanish* *Borachio*. Besides, in giving our Advice on Matters of such Importance, as