

avoid it? How strange must it be; if it was permitted for some persons to destroy the state and forbidden for others to represent to them, that they are so doing? There is in poetry a beautiful fable of one said to have passed safe through the world below by virtue of the golden branch of a certain tree; which he carried before him. I will not now enquire critically; whether truth is under a fine allegory there figured; but I trust, that whoever holds in his hand that powerful charm and bears in his breast the love of his country; may march free from mischief in any world governed by a benevolent and a beneficent Providence: the writer desires no longer the regard of mankind or the protection of the laws; than he shall continue to be conducted by those two sacred guides nor does he know the preservation of the British empire to be a less noble object, than the foundation of the Roman. He risks his reputation and the ridicule of his neighbours; who ventures to speak frankly about events to come and remaining in the womb of time: that is surely stake enough for any honest man to hazard. The administration