

government, by depreciating the merit of the displaced minister, might be deemed the more excusable : the unjustness of the means, according to the old jesuitical maxim, might be supposed to be justified, or, at least, palliated by the goodness of the end.

But as that is not the case ; as the right honourable gentleman resigned voluntarily, and as we have reason to think that his majesty received his resignation, rather with reluctance than otherwise, and with such a mark of his royal favour, as contains a strong approbation of his past conduct, and makes it presumable that he has no objection against employing his services on future occasions ; an endeavour to lessen his character, by destroying that well-founded popularity, which he has hitherto maintained with the nation, and that trust and confidence, which he has always possessed with his sovereign, is not only an injury done to Mr. P.

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