

Position of Frugality and Publick Spirit, I think Sceptism ought to take Place of Reason in Politicks, as it has already done of Authority in Religion.

I have now performed all I promised, and supplied the candid and impartial Reader, to the best of my power, with all the Lights, that are necessary, to enable him to judge sensibly of the present State of Affairs, of the Conduct hitherto pursued, the Conduct we should have pursued, and the Conduct we ought still to pursue, for our own Benefit, and the Security of our Neighbours. I have laid down nothing without assigning Reasons, and supporting those Reasons by the Evidence of Facts; and I have at the same Time avoided, with the utmost Care, whatever might seem to carry the least Appearance of Personal Reflection. In handling this Subject, and in handling it in this Manner, I have had the Satisfaction of that Part of my Countrymen in view, who have no other Expectations from the pursuit of political Measures, but what must follow from the Rectitude of those Measures; for I knew well enough, before I set Pen to Paper, that such as have an Interest in carrying on a tedious and uncertain War upon the Continent, were never to be satisfied, that is, so long as they are in their present Situation, for it is idle to argue against Interest; he who is thoroughly possessed with it shuts his Ears to Reason.

But however these Men may dislike, and declaim against this Work at present; I am pretty confident, that when by a pursuit of their own Measures, if they are permitted to pursue them, their Situations are changed, and they come to be possessed of large Properties, they will then alter their Sentiments, reject their former Plan, and espouse mine. This being a Fact, I can only
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