

why? Because of the presence of a judge—an upright judge, (with his politics we have nothing to do) who with the honesty and boldness of an Englishman, had spoken his mind in the House of Commons; and whose arguments had been publicly sifted and replied to, and outvoted there, by a majority of the members. Was it like English fair play, or was it the work of the cowardly assassin, for such a cause as this, to insult a member of Parliament, a judge or any man; to pelt him, and break open the house where he was a guest, for speaking his mind as we have said? And what had the mayor done? It was his duty in the office he held, to treat the Recorder with hospitality. They were of opposite political sentiments, and the people knew it. Yet the rioters did not scruple to attack the mayor's person, to break open his house, and attempt to burn it about his ears; and if they could have forced their way into the room, where were the objects of their resentment, it is hardly to be doubted that the foulest murders would have been committed, in that moment of fury. The words tyrant and oppressor are for ever in their mouths. As you shall often hear the drunkard rail against drunkenness, the thief against dishonesty, so the men who keep up the hue and cry against tyranny and oppression, are themselves the greatest tyrants. To rule according to the laws is the Kingly office; to attempt to rule contrary to the laws and Constitution, is tyrannical, no doubt; but, since our Constitution was settled upon its present foundation a century and a half ago, and since the accession of the reigning family to the throne,—from such tyranny, we have happily been more free than any other nation in the world. Now, mark what a tyrant in grain, most that man be, whose duty is not to rule, but as a citizen, and subject, to obey the laws, to obey the magistrates, to “give honour to whom honour is due,” to “fear God, and honour the King,” but who flies in the face of one and all of these sacred duties, and strives with all his might to lord it over all ranks and conditions of men above him, not excepting Majesty itself?

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