

FROM THE HALIFAX JOURNAL.  
To the PUBLIC.

THE grand Requisites which ought to be found in every well constituted Government, as essential to the Happiness of the People, are Wisdom, Goodness and Power : Wisdom, to discern the real Interest of the Community; Goodness, to endeavor always to preserve that real Interest; and Strength or Power, to carry this Knowledge and Intention into execution. If Government is unfortunately reposed in such Persons as do not possess these Qualities, the Blessings of Civil Society are in a great measure frustrated, and a universal Dissatisfaction must ensue the Loss of Confidence in those who are appointed to the execution of the Laws and the distribution of Justice. The British Constitution is, in all it's Parts, better calculated to promote the Happiness of its various Members, than any other System which human Wisdom hath yet devised, or probably ever will ; for though sometimes Faction and Venality may creep in and influence the Measures of its ministerial and executive Officers, the Virtue of the People, who generally possess a sufficient Degree of Patriotism to enable them to form a just Estimate of their Rights, and the importance of committing the Execution of the Laws to Men of Abilities and Integrity, will not long suffer such Officers to escape unnoticed, or pass with impunity. A frequent and free Enquiry into the Measures of Government, and a watchful though not too jealous an Eye over those who are called to Places of Trust and Consequence, is always attended with the most salutary Consequences, by keeping them attentive to those Duties which, as Servants to the Public, they are appointed to execute, not merely for their own Advantage, but the general Good of Society. The Tribute of Gratitude and Esteem is rarely withheld from those whose Conduct is directed by Motives of Candor and Humanity ; and though Instances may happen of their sustaining a partial temporary Evil, they generally rise superior to the Influence of artful designing Men, and ultimately receive the Plaudits of their Fellow Subjects, for their perseverance and Firmness in bringing to public View such Measures as are either dangerous in their Effects, or have a Tendency to lessen the Reputation of Government.

To excite unnecessary Fears and Jealousies in the Minds of the People is highly criminal ; but Occurrences may and sometimes do happen, when it is equally criminal to be silent, more especially when the first Rights of the Subject are invaded by unwarrantable Distranchisements, and a fair impartial Enquiry eluded by every Artifice which Influence can suggest.—Conscious Innocence needs no Subterfuge, in the Moment of the severest Trial, inspired with Confidence, defies the closest Investigation, and never shrinks from the most rigid Inquiry.

We have long heard of Complaints respecting the Administration of Justice in the Supreme Court of the Province, and however difficult it may be for People in general to ascertain with any Degree of Precision the Truth of them ; it is a melancholy Consideration that there should be even the Possibility of a Pretext for such Complaints, because it has a Tendency to loosen the Reins of Government, by destroying that Confidence which not only gives Energy to the Laws, but is the most effectual Barrier against Anarchy and Licentiousness. Our Public Situation is much to be lamented, but we have this Consolation, that an adequate Remedy is within our Reach, we are only wanting in Goodness to apply that Remedy, which, it is devoutly to be wished, may be effected through that Wisdom which discerns the real Interest of the Community.

It is true that the General Assembly, at their last Session, in a Committee of the whole House, went into the Investigation of Facts that have occasioned those Dissatisfactions, and under a serious Impression, from the Information they had received, addressed his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor upon the Subject, requesting that he would take the same into Consideration, and adopt such Measures thereon as he might think just and right. The Language of that Address was suited to the Solemnity of the Occasion, and manifested the high Sense they had of the Trust reposed in them by the People ; for they expressly declare to his Excellency, that the magnitude of the Object was such, that they were compelled to sacrifice even the Feelings of Humanity, rather than betray an inattention to those Concerns, which should ever claim the first and most watchful Regard of every wise Legislature. This Representation was perfectly temperate and constitutional, and must be considered as the clearest Evidence of the Wisdom and Deliberation of the Representatives of the People. The House, without any Construction or Comment upon the Information they had received, further than what was expressive of their solicitude for a full Investigation of this serious Business, submitted Proofs, as the Grounds of an Enquiry, which they requested might be instituted in such a Manner that a fair and impartial Trial should take Place, and the Public convinced of the Innocence or Criminality of the Judges. To this Address his Excellency was pleased to reply, " That the Complaints exhibited against the Judges were of so serious a Nature as to require a very deliberate Investigation, which could

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