

consider the Attack made on a Court of Justice; and the Manner on which that Attack was supported, I cannot forbear extending my Views farther than that of Martial. The Land Force kept up in this Kingdom, has introduced a Change which has long given great Apprehension to all those who have any Regard to our ancient Constitution. It has done more: It has given Terror to some lest the Military Power should grow too strong for the Civil Magistrate; and tho' the Navy has never been look'd on as carrying with it any Degree of Danger to our Constitution, for that very Reason in some Cases it may be the most proper Means to prepare the Way to begin the Prelude, to make the Experiment how far Things will bear. But happy it was for us that Things were not prepared on all Hands to compleat our Misfortunes, that a Person of Resolution and Spirit, able and willing to repulse the Insult, and withstand the Attempts of Men however great and powerful by their Party, or employs presided in that Court. But to return to the Discouragement and Hardships of our Seamen, who with too great Reason complain of the immense Navy Debt, and their uncome-at-able Arrears. With what Reluctance must they enter into the Service, with what Ill-will execute it when they know, that after all, in order to obtain what is indisputably their Due, their hardly earned Wages, they are obliged to use a tiresome Sollicitation of many Years, for which their Wages when obtained are sometimes scarce an Equivalent. This I readily believe gives great Concern to some of high Station in that Office, as I am persuaded every thing doth, which is afflictive of this Country, but in the present Disposition of Affairs it is unavoidable.