

man of real property or good character was to be found. The progress of Contention has something that animates even the most indifferent, and forces them to be decided in their conduct. Such was the case in America. The popular cry increasing, made those who had formerly seen no right to complain, imagine that they were aggrieved; and men of reputation, who dared not to think for themselves, were resolved to shew they did not want apprehension, when so many were groaning under burthens, which they pretended were unable to be borne. When these Men were obtained, it was an easy thing to forward the views of those whom every possible change of Government could not alter for the worse; Men whose circumstances had nothing to fear from Fortune, and whose manners were never calculated for the peaceful duties of private life; Men, Sir, who hold forth in popular Assemblies; who can discolour Truth, can manage the Multitude by their Eloquence, and dress out Vice in the ornaments of Virtue. I repeat it, Sir, that when the harangues of such Men are tolerated in any Government whatever, it must be fatal; for while they are rioting in all the excesses of Licentiousness, they impress on the minds of the People the idea that they are Slaves. I am not wrong when I assert, and I appeal to every Man who has applied himself to American affairs to bear witness of my assertion, that Men of this character first laid the foundation of the present Rebellion