

As to myself, gentlemen, I dare avow the honest ambition of differing totally from all such authors, in the scope and aim of this letter.—For my talent as a writer, every scribbler may place me in reputation, if he pleases, immediately below his fellow-dunce ; that is, immediately below nothing ; an ingenious device, which I have often known practised by the fraternity. But it shall not be in their power to prove me guilty of what is alone material for your consideration ; I mean, of intentionally asserting false facts, and of wilfully misrepresenting true ones.

I intend neither panegyric nor abuse ; and I have no cause to serve, but that of truth, and of my country. If, therefore, in the course of this address, I any where impose upon you ; I have been first, unknowingly, imposed upon myself. Be assured, however, that nothing in my power, has been left undone, to avoid this misfortune ; and that, on the contrary, I have exerted my best endeavours to procure every light, every information, which a private man could, by the most deliberate research, arrive at the knowledge of : and the result of this enquiry shall  
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