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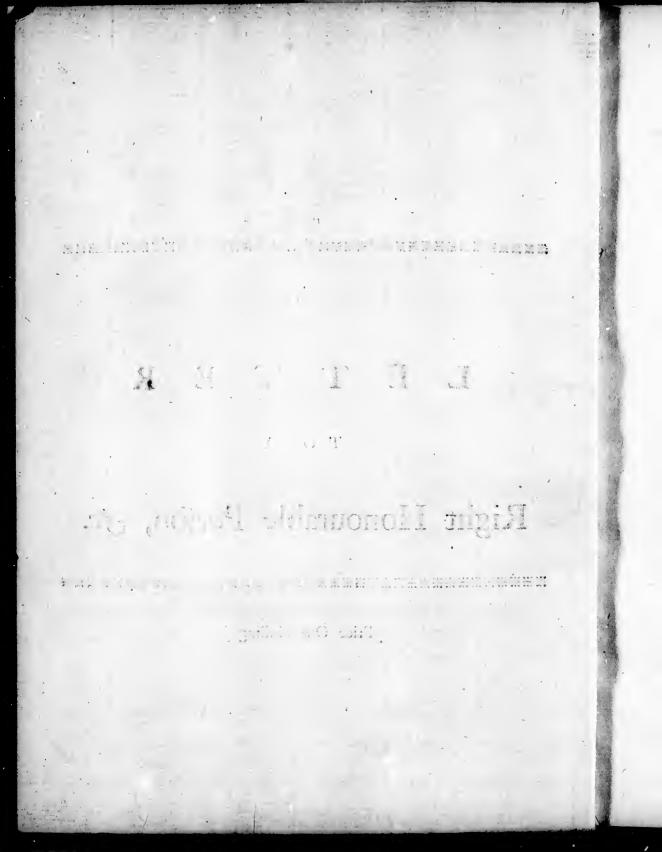
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LETTER

TOA

Right Honourable Person, &c.

[Price One Shilling.]



LETTER

Α

TOA

Right Honourable PERSON.

(William Pitt, ofterwards Ist Earl of Chatham)

And the Answer to it, Translated into Verse, as nearly as the different Idioms of PROSE and POETRY will allow,

With Notes Historical, Critical, Political, Sec.

LONDON:

Printed for W. NICOLL in St. Paul's Church Yard.

M D C C L X L

LETTER.

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Right LL MARSON

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MDCCLLL.

The PREFACE.

HEN first, of a thousand times, I read these curious epistles, which here I confectate to rhime and immortality; when I found them equally fraught with historical truth, as with political wisdom; equally diftinguished for elegance of language, and accuracy of style, I lamented, that they were composed of perissible, profaick materials. With what fincere concern did I reflect, that they must foon, too foon! be lost to remembrance, or be fent; with their news-papers, perhaps, to Jamaica to exercise the criticism of sugar-planters, Negroes and Creolians? I deplored the fate of the great man, to whom the fecond letter is addressed, whose good fame, o tempora, o mores! is hardly likely to furvive his virtue, even in a monument, erected to the VIRO IMMORTALI.

I CONSIDERED from whence this calamity could arife, and I was immediately convinced, that if Homer had written the wrath of Achilles, or Virgil the loves of Dido in profe, the hero and the heroine must have long fince experienced the common fate of mortality. The Muses, the Muses alone, have the privilege of giving immortality. *Musa vetat mori.* Yet even the Muses cannot give it in profe. Shall it then hereafter be faid, that two fuch personages, as these writers

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appear

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appear to be in each other's Letters; fo eminently diffinguished for their integrity, patriotifm, abilities and, how tender is the expression 1 for their kind friendship, (a) shall they die, like mere mortals, quia carent vate facro; because, No bard had they to make all time their own?

ANIMATED by thefe, and other reflexions, equally powerful, I determined to fnatch thefe charming letters from oblivion; to give them to immortality, by *doing* them into verfe, as nearly as the different idioms of profe and poetry can allow; and then to place them in friendly opposition to each other, like pictures hung in contrast to illustrate each other's beauties.

THAT they are equally fusceptible of all the most luxurious ornaments of poetry, every critick must allow; nor, if he be a critick of any tolerable fagacity, can he hefitate, even a moment, in pronouncing, that they are the works of the fame master. Is there not the fame everlasting length of period; the fame manly diffegard to grammar; the fame loofe, unconnected texture of expression; the fame inconclusive, unconfequential reasoning, fo peculiarly fitted to the freedom and ease of epistolary writing? Beauties, like these, it is confessed, have a kind of originality, which it is almost impossible to preferve in a translation. The spirit evaporates in the transfusion; like that of the new-invented æther, the moment the bottle is uncorked. Yet the reader will find, that this originality hath been boldly attempted, and his candour will determine, I hope, not unfavourably, of the fucces.

In the confcioufnels of meriting that *fuccefs* by the *fidelity* of this translation, I fhall venture to affert, what few modern translators can

(a) Vid. Mr. P--t's Letter.

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prefume to affert, that it fometimes rifes fuperior, in fublimity and beauty, even to the original. This fuperiority, no doubt, proceeds from a fecret charm, that in general, animates the language of poetry, and particularly from the harmony of the numbers, which I have, not injudicioutly, chofen. Be it known, therefore, to all criticks, fludious of poetical harmony, that doggrel is the proper measure for the fublime ideas of modern patriotifm, panegyrick and addreffes, of which I thall convince the world, as foon as a certain addrefs to his M-----y, I beg pardon, I mean to his minister, fhall make its appearance.

But not panegyrick alone, nor patriotifin have their proper and peculiar measures in poetry. When the ladies write love letters, all the numbers are elegiack. When our patriot-commoner raises his voice to affert the rights of the people; to deplore the errours of administration, or to vindicate his own injured reputation from the misseprefentations of credulity and calumny, his diction inftantly affumes the pomp of blank verse. Lastly, when Mr. P--t and Mr. B----d oblige the world with a private publick correspondence, the mutual ackknowledgements of each other's merit; their kind professions of friendthip and effeem naturally fink together into doggrel.

I CONFESS I cannot think, or talk of poetry, without feeling a kind of extacy and enthuliafm. Even fatire is infipid; even a lampoon is intolerable, without the mulick of poetical composition. I honour the French for be-rhiming Moliere's profaick comedies, nor do I defpair of hearing the gentle melody of rhime among the foft improvements of modern tragedy, inflead of the barbarous diffonance of blank verfe; that half-akin to profe. However, I am in christian charity; I bear no malice to profe or profemen. I think it falls down

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very naturally in notes, remarks and annotations to the bottom of the page. Witnefs doctor W---n's two huge columns of criticifm to fupport and explain two lines of Mr. Pope's poetry. In humble imitation of this right-reverend canonift in criticifm, I have bottomed my pages with notes variorum. I do not mean the variorum of perfons only, but of learning, morality, politicks, and panegyrick. I confefs, I have almost exhausted my common place-book; no matter; I shall easily fill it again with quotations of learning from our illustrious moderns, and maxims of politicks from the common council at Guildhall.

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THE publick, no doubt, in gratitude, as well as curiofity, will expect to be informed, WHO and WHAT are the writers, to whom they are obliged for these letters: who have published them of their own, *fpontaneous* bounty, *unfolicited*, and *unmerited*, as the pensions of Kings: who is this right honourable person, and his friend Mr.----: this *pius Æneas* and his *fidus Achates*; this fecond Sir James H----s, who youches for the fentiments of the city.

THE laft Hague Gazette has translated one of these letters into French and affures us, that it is written by the right honourable Mr. Pitt to the Lord Mayor of London, whom it frequently styles, MON CHER MONSIEUR. It likewise informs us, that Mr. Pitt, although dismissed from his office, yet regularly attends the frequent councils, held at court. But as we have some reason to believe, that this intelligence is a little premature; that it is, at present, and probably will be for ever a missake, we may therefore believe, there may possibly be some missake in the other instance. It indeed it were only a trivial anachronism, in calling Mr. B----d, MY LORD; or might we think it prophetick 10

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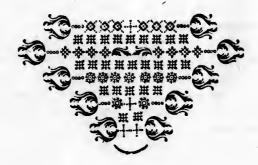
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the IER fied I at nce for ome onprotick phetick of the next year's mayoralty, then would I cry out with Coreggio, I too am a painter.

> Then fhould creolian B----d, like himfelf, Start from the Canvas in his native Hues, The bronze tartarean, and Jamaica tint, Sun-burnt and deep enamell'd,

Then should he stand in oratorial attitude, haranguing, loud, his and his friend's fifteen aldermen; their hundred common-council. But fuch eternal blazon must not be to ears of steps and blood.

Now to my talk adventurous. Casta, O, Lucina, fave. Diva, producas sobolem, and give the springing birth to light.



C

A LETTER

A LETTER from a Right Honourable Perfon to ----- in the City, faithfully done into Verfe Sc.

DEAR SIR,

[1] HAVING found with Surprife, that my late [2] Refignation, Both in Manner and Caufe, by [3] Mifreprefentation Hath been grofsly abus'd: that his majefty's Grace, Which follow'd, [4] *fpontaneous*, my quitting my Place,

Hath

[1] Finding with Surprife. Original. Voyant à mon grand etonnement, fays the Hague Gazette. How does a Dutch, or a French man dare to translate the Writings of our British Minister? Can they have any Conception of his sublime Ideas? He has expressed, by the Word furprise, the gentleft emotion of the human Heart; while that of etonnement implies not only a turbulence of Passion, but a Disorder of the Understanding, unworthy of the right honourable Person. Nil admirari is the motto of a great Man.

MONITOR.

[2] Refignation. Why Refignation? I hate the Word. No; it was an envious, malignant Faction, at a certain Board, that forced from his Majefty's Councils the only

NOTES.

Perfon, capable of directing them; that compelled him to quit the Service of the Publick. His Advice was rejected. The Plans he had formed, and the Meafures he had calculated for the Good of the Nation, were opposed. After all hisLabours of Fidelity and Succefs, a Peace, difhonourable, no doubt, and difadvantageous, was to be concluded. He therefore prudently quitted an Employment, where he could not continue with Honour, and where neither his Abilities, nor his Integrity could be any longer ferviceable to his Country.

Vox Populi.

[3] Is großly mifrepresented &c. Original: sont deguisés a la ville. Hague Gazette. What a cold Expression of that animated Indignation, which fires the Original! Großly Hath been flander'd, most basely, and vilely perverted To a [.5] Bargain, for having the Publick deferted, The Truth of these Facts I am forc'd to proclaim, [6] And the Manner, no Gentleman furely will blame.

NOTES.

[7

Großsly misrepresented! In these two Words, he proves his Integrity, justifies his Conduct, and vindicates the Consciousness of his own Worth. What Ideas are these! What Power of Language! No wonder, that the French Tongue should fink under such imagery, when the French Monarchy has already such under his Abilities, and the Weight of his Administration.

MONITOR.

[4] Spontaneous. That his Majesty's Bounty was uncontrouled, uninfluenced, and freely flowing from the munificence of his own Nature, no Man ever doubted ; none ever denied. Such, we apprehend, is the Meaning of the Word spontaneous. To fay, that this Bounty was unmerited, is indeed a Compliment juffly paid to his Generofity, though paid, pethaps, not without fome Reproach to his Difcernment. That it was unfolicited, is urged rather too incautioufly, and may hereafter admit of a Difpute. Happy for the right honourable Perfon had he refted his Defence, in this Article of it, upon the natural Goodness of his Prince. A grateful People would have unanimoufly acknowledged the Iuffice of his Plea,

ALL THE COMMENTATORS IN ALL THE LANCUAGES OF EUROPE. [5] Traduced as a Bargain. Yes, an infamous, betraying Bargain. Princes, however bounteous and munificency however naturally inclined to Acts of Grace and Favour, are not apt to reward the Perfon, who refufes to ferve them, and, with fome very difobliging Circumftances, refufes. There muft, therefore, fuch is the ftrong Conclusion, have been fome fecret Merit in this, otherwife unaccountable, Refignation, and more than Royal Bounty in this Grant of Penfions and Honours.

THE TEST.

[6] And the Manner. In the Original, in a manner, which I am fure no Gentleman will contradict. How greatly has the English Language, as well as the English Nation, been obliged to the Writer of this Epistle! How many new Words, or new Meanings for old ones; how many new Modes of Expression has he introduced into it ! How is it possible, therefore, to mention either him or them without a Note of Admiration !

WITH regard to the Inftance before us; to contradict the Affertion of an Opinion, a Fact, a Truth or Falthood, by afferting the contrary, is the conftant Meaning and Ufage of the Word. This contradicting the manner is totally new to our Language. The French Translator, no wonder, hath wholly loft

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[7] That I, and the Council were of different Opinions Of Importance to Britain, her Crown and Dominions, Regarding the Meafures we thould take againft Spain (Yet pray, my dear Sir, underftand what I mean) Not founded on what fhe may now be defigning, But what fhe has done, was my caufe for refigning.

[8] Lord TEMPLE and I fubmitted in writing, And fign'd by us both, our Aroject for fighting,

NOTES.

lost the elegant jargon of the original expression and ideas, when he renders it, d'une maniere, qui ne repugne nullement a la probite. A manner by no means repugnant to probity. Our English translator, too, has lost the spirit of the sentiment by coldly endeavouring to make it intelligible. The manner no gentleman surely will blame.

CRITICAL REVIEW.

[7] That I and the Council. I will not interrupt my Reader's good Humour, or damp my own Spirit of Poetry, or lofe the Pleafure of contemplating, admiring, and criticifing thefe excellent Epiftles, by entering, at prefent, into a grave Inquiry into the Honourable Gentleman's Reafons for refigning. If any of my readers, however, are impatient to fee this Affair fet in its true Light, and confidered, in all its Circumftances, with that Attention it certainly deferves, they may find, at the latter end of this Work, their Curiofity fufficiently gratified.

THE TRANSLATOR.

[8] LORD TEMPLE. Le Lord Temple, fays the Gazette-but why not in capital Letters. What an Indignity to the noble Lord? Correct it therefore, all ye Readers, of Delicacy and Tafte, according to the Honour, with which the Great man honours his Lordship, and read with the Original, LORD TEMPLE & moi avons foumis tres humblement au Roi nos fentimens & fignés de notre main. What a Parcel of Blunders are here? To controul his Majesty's Prerogative; to take from Him his private Right of judging; to govern his Council, and to guide his Measures, these were, indeed, their most humble Sentiments; but where did this Translatorfind their tres humblement; their Humility of fubmitting these Sentiments to THE BEST OF SOVEREIGNS? Then the signés de notre main----what a miserable Translation of that Hardinels of Expression. fuperior to the formal Rules of Grammar. We submitted in Writing, and signed by us ! But all the Men of Learning among the French are now fludying our Language, and

But as the whole Council against us combin'd, On the fifth of this Inftant the Seals I refign'd, That I might not hereafter for measures be try'd, [9] Which I was not allow'd any longer to guide. Most gracious the Marks of the King's Approbation, [10] That follow'd, not went before, my Refignation,

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and will hereafter be feafible of the untranslatable Beauties of this divine Epistle.

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CRITICAL REVIEW.

AH ! Poor Lord Temple ! When, according to a facetious Friend of mine, he had opened the Sentence in fo CAPITAL a Manner, he ought furely to have held his Dignity to the End of it, If I remember rightly, his Lordship too has refigned. Was there then no fecret Merit in his Refignation, that might entitle Him to the Honour of a Penfion : or was he introduced here, as infignificantly as into the Cabinet, tantum ut exiret ?

THE TEST.

[9] Which I was no longer &c. We have in this Paffage an inconteftable Proof of the Precipitation, with which this Letter was given to the Publick : a remainder, perhaps, of that precipitate Spirit, which hurried the Gentleman to refign. In the last Sentence, a Difference of Opinion was the Gause of my resigning the Seals; but here, I refigned the Seals-in Order, not to remain responsible &c.

We do not mention these Mistakes in any Suspicion of the Right Honourable Perfon's Veracity. He hath given the World a most convincing Proof of his Zeal for the Honour of Truth, by divulging. those Secrets, which he was engaged by an Oath of Council never to reveal, without his M____y's Permission.

IMPARTIAL.

No

[10] Followed my Refignation. How pitiable is it, to fee a great Man in the Diffress of endeavouring to vindicate his Reputation by nice and fubtle Diffinctions; or palliating an infamous Bargain with trivial Circumstances of to day, and to morrow 11 *

HUMANITY.

What does this impertinent Critick mean by his pitiable; a Term, that implies more of Contempt, than Compassion? Is this the Tendernels to human Frailty, for which he affumes the Title of HUMANITY? But to whom is the Gentleman fuppofed to make these subtle, these palliating Diftinctions? To whom is he responsible for having graciously and gratefully accepted thefe Honours and Penfions; the fpontaneous marks of his M-ty's Bounty? Certainly not to the People. It were an In-D dignity

[10]

No Merit I boafted, no Penfion I crav'd,

Yet with Pride, from the best of all Sovereigns, receiv'd.

For the Honour of Truth I these Matters explain,

Nor any Man's Confidence with to regain,

Who with a Credulity, weak as unjuft,

Can fuspect one of basely betraying his Truft,

Who long ferv'd his Country with Zeal and Succefs,

[11] And rais'd her to glory from Shame and Diffrefs;

Who justly the candid and upright reveres,

But the bafe and capricious nor values, nor fears.

I beg, my dear Sir, my beft Thanks you'll receive

For all your [12] kind Friendship, and will always believe,

That I am &c. &c. &c.

all man fitters a sector . . N.O T E S.

dignity to Virtue; a betraying her facred Interests; for Horace hath long fince determined, that Virtue

Nec jumit, nec ponit secures and a secure se

Neither, Affumes her Honours, nor declines, As the light Air of Crouds uncertain veers. FRANCIS'S HORACE.

With regard to his Penfion, why fhould it be expected, that this Gentleman fhould make himfelf the fingle romantick Inflance of being virtuous for nothing? Quis enim virtutem amplectitur ipfam, Præmia fi tollas? Did not Sir T_____s R____n, and L^d H____and___&c. refign for their Penfions? Or look upon the Lift of Irifh Patriots and Penfioners, then tell me, Critick, whether Penfions can be infamous.

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CLASSICAL.

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[11] And rais'd her to glory &c. This Line, it is acknowledged, is not in the Original. It is given to the Gentleman's fingular Modesty in speaking of Himself.

TRANSLATOR.

[12] Kind Friend/bip. How amiable are these acknowledgements in a great Man! In general, if Ingratitude be all the vices, ingratum f. diseris, then certainly Gratitude is all the Virtues. But what Obligations, what proofs of this kind Friendfbip could our great Man have received from

11

NOTES.

is supposed to have been written, except the following Specimen of his Genius for Panegyrick may be deemed an Obligation? It has not yet been given to the Publick, but whoever is the least acquainted with him, will acknowledge it to be genuine. Indeed his Manner, his Language, and his Elocution are all equally inimitable. It is only neceffary to inform my Readers, that the Speech, from which this little Extract is taken, was pronounced upon the Motion, made by the Minister for erecting a Monument to the Memory of General Wolfe.

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" I have liftened to every Word, that * has fell from my honourable Friend, and " I rife up to fecond his motion. It were ** Prefumption in me, or in any Man, to " attempt to add any thing to what he has " faid on this melancholy Occasion. But

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from the Gentleman, to whom this Letter while I feel for the General, I alfo feel " for the Minister, who called him forth " to this Expedition. Here was no Par-" liamentary Interests, no family Con-" nexions, no ariftocratical Views. No: " nothing of that there Kind. Wolfe was " made for the Statesman, and the States-" man was made for Wolfe. There were " many Circumstances similar between " them. Wolfe had Gentleness and Mo-" defty; fo had the Minister. Wolfe lost " his Life, and the Minister has hazarded " his Head, for his Country. I had not " the Honour of being acquainted with "General Wolfe, but I never faw any " Man look more like a Soldier. He " was a Soldier, and a Soldier's Friend-" I confess, Sir, I am much embarraffed .--" and yet --- I am not usually much em-" barraffed."

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The following Letter was generoufly communicated to us by the Writer himfelf.

DEAR SIR,

[i] THE City of London must for ever forget, Or always remember, They are much in Your Debt,

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[1] The City of London. What an Opening is here ! The vastoque immanis biatu is nothing to it. How alarming ! How full of Expectation ! Criticks may tell us of the modeft Opening befitting an Epick Poem, but if Aristotle were to rise from the Dead, and give us Rules for epiftolary Writing, he would take from this Example, the pathetick, animating Spirit of beginning ail future Letters. THE CITY OF LON-DON ! that is, the Capital of the World ; the Miftress of Commerce ; the Centre of Trade ; whole Shopkeepers are Politicians ; whole Aldermen are Instructors to their Reprefentatives in Parliament, and whole Common-Council-Men are ---- it is impossible to fay, what they are. What Ideas are thefe ! What Images !

ALL THE COMMENTATORS paffim & universaliter.

NOTES.

What a Parcel of ignorant Blockheads are all the Commentators, past, prefent, and to come, with their paffim & universaliter, which, for aught I know, may be better than our City Latin. Not to know, that the City of London are only fifteen Aldermen and ninety Common-Council-Men ! Yet these Fellows call themselves Criticks. forfooth, and Commentators !

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SIR JAMES HODGES.

What ! My old Friend, Sir James, again got into Print, and prefenting us with the Key of Knowledge ! Yet his Knighthood might have remembered, that fix thousand . Perfons in London vote for Members of Parliament, and that his City, who fend their Instructions to those Members, are very little more than one poor, paltry hundred. What then ? The Secretary acknowledges their Authority, and bows himfelf to their

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And that [2] You accepted the Seals, when the Nation-[3] Sure never was Country in fuch Tribulation ; That our Armies were beaten, our Navy was laid Inactive in Port, and expos'd was our Trade ; not ned of that 2

Der Armien triumphant, our Navies villeribus, And our Frade in a State, which it neve ineve beiere us; one hundred and eighty Words, brave Words, indeed ! magnanimous and founding, he requests Sir James to express his high Senfe of the fignal Honour - then, their condescending and favourable Refolution - then once again, the Honour, which he receives with true Reverence and Gratitude, not without Confusion at his own fmall Defervings-Was there ever fuch a Farce ?

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Anecoote. Anecoote and i lan anang and bit 3] Never was Country reduced. Et. The Writer here brings to our Remembrance the inglorious State of our Affairs. when the honourable Perfon accepted the Scals. He fills the Scene with every gloound Contempt ? The French, it feenes, A were reduced to low as to fur for a Parry 21.2.12

sheir Title. In one unftopped Period of my mclancholy Circumftance, that he may afterwards prefent us with a more chearful Profpect of our Situation, when the Gentleman refigned. Thus an able Painter deepens and darkens the Ground of his Pictures, to give a greater Warmth to his Colouring, and a bolder Relief to his Figures.

That

TASTE. Ares I was Gro under Aller the int. These may, possibly, be Remarks of Tafte, with regard to painting, but the Letter-Writer might well have been forgiven, if he had a little lefs wantonly indulged himfelf in the Pleasure of describing the Calamities of his Country. Who does not honour his Friend's Abilities, and acknowledge his good Fortune ? Yet, it, furely, was by no means necessary to the Vindication of his Integrity or Wildom in refigning, to fet him in Opposition to the poble Duke, who had the Conduct of our Affairs at that Fime of national Difgrace and Diffress. ... Let it, however be remembered, that our Patriot covered his Grace from the publick Refentment by a mock Inquiry, and then joined with him in Administration.

HISTORICAL REGISTER.

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That our Credit was bankrupt with all Correspondents, [4] Abroad was Contempt, and at home was Delpondence. The City mult also remember for ever, wrow a stro A the tad " That when you refigned, our Affairs were quite clever, ovitour. Our Armies triumphant, our Navies victorious,

And our Trade in a State, which it ne'er knew before us ; Our Credit reftord, and the People more will goo al shall nich To lend you a Million, than borrow a Shilling ; : Leobal public Nr. Our Foes in Defpair at our high Exultation, and the of super of the [5] And the Neutrals amaz'd in profound Veneration. That La Lata qui auto' TE'S. an Marine Marine La Start and Andrew La Start Andrew L A siteriarial.

[4] Abroad was Contempt. After this just and animated Description, I do declare, I verily believe, that my Brother, who alone ralfed the Nation from this Diftrels, is not only the greatest, but the only Man in the Kingdom : that in himfelf he is King, Lords, Commons, and Cabinetcouncil : that he is the Sailor's Intrepidity. the Soldier's Courage, and all the Money in the Treafury ; that he was Wolfe's happy Temerity, Amherst's Conduct, and Prince Ferdinand's good Fortune, efpecially at the Battle of Minden : that he was Anfon's Knowledge, Hawke's Refolution, and Keppel's Ardour that he withdrew his Spirit from Lord George, and from that -Moment his Lordship funk into a C-d. All this, and more, I firmly believe. "On! LORD TEMPLE'S CREED.

Muft we not conclude from his Lordhip's Declaration of his political Faith, fo

folemnly pronounced; that Mr. Secretary had, by the Power of his Office, created the thirty thousand Troops he sent to Germany, and coined his twenty annual Millions, for continental Armies, Subfidies and Expeditions. How could a Nation, reduced to a State of Bankruptey, raife these Millions ; how could our beaten Armies realfume the Courage of Britons & Impoffible. One Miracle more we must acknowfedge he has performed. In He has made his noble Brother equally an Orator in the Houle, and a Politician in the Cabinet. dram GREDULITY.

well a rat Recercica and I rate to to to

[5] Amazement and Veneration among all neutral Nations, Who could imagine, that all these fine Words, nothing but Exuttation at bome, Confusion and Despair emong our Enemies could end in our being treated by those very Enemies with Infolence and Contempt ? The French, it feems, were reduced to low as to fue for a Peace, though

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That the Frenchowere reducid to fo low a Condition oil by As to fue for a Peace, and we heard, their Petition, on oroll But they were too haughty and we were too great, in you'T Our fucceffes too many, to know how to treat. If no (but T

[6] But if Knaves have taught Fools to call your Refignation Betraying your Truft, and deferting your Station, (When you are prevented, alas! from purfuing The Meafures, that ftill might preferve us from Ruin)

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If they in the Light of a Penfion regard

[7] A Reward, that fcarce merits the Name of Reward,

ALDER OF ALL STRUCT PARTS SUN OF Martin Miller W COMBRENE though their Haughtiness was too great, and our Succeffes too many, for any Terms to be agreed on. Who can explain this Jargon ? Impoffible. Such reafoning has fomething too abfurd for Laughter, too perplexed to be explained. Whence is it, that two Gentleman; who are fuch excellent Speakers, can be such lamentable Writers? Why did they not employ fome of the critical Reviewers to endeavour to express fomething like a Meaning for them? Even the Monitor could not have written fuch Nonfense. But what shall be faid of the Minister, whose Fidelity and Success have rendered his Country thus contemptibly glorious, and thus impotently fuccelsful, ?... COMMON SENSE.

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[6] But if Knaves have taught Fools. The old Division of Mankind, in Matters of Religion, Politicks, Morals, Genius,

confidence of man at a l'is l'ent at E S. ditert, the ischong and in Arts and Sciences. All, who are of our Opinion, are Wife and Honeft ; all, who are of a contrary Opinion, are Knaves and Fools. The Maxim holds true, from Mr Beckford, the Alderman, to Mr Pitt, the Secretary. die porten fer ferward is estat l'in allo mil a anti y UNIVERSNEW2 [7] A Reward, that fcarce merits Se A foolish Figure, in the Language of Polonius; a rhetorical Antithefis, for which both the honourable and right honourable Gentlemen are equally diffinguished. Yet this Reward, that, fo it feems to this Alderman's Generofity, fcarce deferves the Name of Reward, may poffibly coft the Nation an hundred thousand Pounds. A Nation, almost exhausted by the profusion. and Projects of this very Minister. CRITICISM AND HISTORY 13 Car

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Yet the City of Londong from one End to totheral out that I Hope ne'er to be tank'd among one, or the other out of an They are fendible, all for the Good of the Realmow world Just That You still are on Board, the you've quitted the Helm; "O That you still will be ready, [8] fpite of Pensions and Peerage, Over Rocks, and through Quickfands to manage the Steerage, [9] The Crew to advife, and the Pilot to guide, (M Sec Till fafe in her Port the good Veffel shall ride. Thefe,

berry marshall a to WEWDA to start N O: T.E.S.

This Reward, I do affert, was as inconfiderable, with regard to his Fortune, as it was unequal to his merit. This paltry three thousand a Year was not sufficient to maintain a fet of Horfes. They muft have coft him three hundred.

Wi moit .out chlod THE MONITOR.

What ! our Patriot Minister; at last, takes a Reward for ferving his 'Country! Surely, the wery Name of Patriotifm will become a Term of Mockery and Ridicule. Yet I remember, when the late Mr Pultency, after being the Patriot of a twenty year's Oppolition, was buried in Infamy and an Earldom, another Haranguer for Liberty arofe, and was believed. A People, who can lightly give away their Confidence to these Talkers, will never want fich Patriots, basuos in mus us mus

achieve mit ye bof DAILY, JOURNAL. ..

[8] Penfioner as you are. Says the Original; a Liberty of Expression, which the Translator dares not venture. Yet, erd -

however always vehement, and fometimes eloquent against Pensioners, the right honourable Perfon was never, in his Heart, an Enemy to Penfions. Witness a Letter, still in Being, to a noble Duke, and dated fome five years ago, foliciting his Grace's Interest with his late Majesty for a Pension. SECRET HISTORY.

Jar 11. 15. 15

And Poerage. Why was this most honourable Part of the Reward forgotten by the Writer of this Letter? Yet with regard to this Barony of Chatham, which is to defcend to his Posterity, what a noble Difregard hath he fhewn for the Pride and Vanity of Titles, by giving them to his Lady and Son ? Gewgaws fit for Women and Children; while he himfelf continues a Commoner, and one of the People'; while he holds his Seat among their Representatives.

[9] To warn him and the Crew. The Commons of Great Britain, by their Reprefentatives.

TRANSLATOR.

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Thele, Sir, are the Sentiments, zealous and fervent, [10] I believe of the City, I am fure of your Servant, and most obedient &c.

NOTES.

presentatives in Parliament assembled, are the Crew, supposed to be on board this ancient Type of the Common-wealth. But what Par: will our Minister aft on board this imaginary Veffel? Will he, who has refigned his Employment from motives of Honour and Conscience; will he fit down in filent Approbation of publick Measures, or will he, with his own dictatorial Spirit, oppose in Parliament, what he disapproved in Council? Can Honour and Confeience; can Patriotifm and the Arguments of Reafon, lofe their eternal Nature by the trivial Alterations of Place, or Employment? But, I fear, I am asking Questions, which his Paffions, do not, at present, allow him, and which his Judgement never will be able, to answer.

ANONYMOUS.

[10] I believe, of the City. Let the Reader acknowledge and admire our Alderman's Integrity. Through the whole long Length of his Letter, he has politively affirmed, that there are the Sentiments of the City. But here upon better Recollection, he modeftly confess, that he only believes. I am afraid, that not

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many of his Readers will join with him even in this modeft Belief.

CANDID.

Difficult as it was and arduous, my Tafk is finished. Let me then congratulate my Readers and myfelf, that we fhall part in the fame good humour, with which we met. The right honourable Gentleman and his Citizen may perhaps bring us together again by generoully obliging the Publick with their future Correspondence. Neither do I despair, of once more hearing our Patriot Commoner exerting his Eloquence against continental Measures, and once more declaring, " Not a man, not a " fingle Guinea shall ever be fent to Ger-" many." His Friends already affure us, that he holds himfelf uninfluenced by any Obligations, Honours or Penfions; and that whenever the Diffress or Danger of his Country demands his Affiftance, he will ftand forth in her Defence, A motley Kind of Eloquence indeed, between the fervile Compliances of a penfioned Courtier, and the patriot Spirit of a Tribune of the People.

THE TRANSLATOR.

General

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General Reflexions upon these LETTERS.

N EITHER in the Petulance of attempting to be a Wit, nor for the poor Renown of being fmart, nor yet to vindicate, as may poffibly be fulpected, my Reafon by my Rifibility, did I affume the Tone and Air of Pleafantry. The right honourable Perfon has made his Appeal to the Publick, and every Individual of that Publick is authorifed to deliver his Sentiments upon it, in his own Manner, according to the Meafure of his knowledge, his Abilities and Underftanding. For my own Part, I was determined to try the Gentleman's Conduct by every Kind of Proof, even by that of Ridicule. If he finks under this Proof, which is generally allowed to be no mean Teft of Truth, his Retignation is blameable; and then it is of little Importance, by what Forms of Trial he ftands condemned. If he can ftand this Procefs, he will come forth from it, like Gold from the Furnace, brighter and purer, and heavier.

Some Expressions in these Papers may possibly be taxed with too much Levety, and others charged with too much Severity; yet when, in the first of these Letters, whoever withdraws bis good Opinion from the right honourable Person is rated for a Credulity, weak as injurious, I presume in common Sense he means unjust; when, in the second Letter, all, who differ from the Writer's Sentiments, are frankly called Fools and Knaves, furely such Coarsenses of Expression will justify all Kinds of Language in return.

I Do not make any over-earnest Professions of my own Impartiality, I do not think myself exempted from that common Lot of all human Under-

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Understandings, the being placed between Reason and Passion; between Prejudice and Impartiality. I greatly fear, that our Friends are not always impartial; I truly believe, that our Enemies are not always malignant.

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I CONFESS, I did not imagine this extraordinary Refignation was an Object of fuch prefent Importance, or that it would probably be productive of fuch future Confequences, either Good or Evil, as to require any mighty Solemnity in the manner of treating it; and perhaps the following Reflexions may convince my Readers, it was not for want of many a ferious Argument, that I have chosen those of Raillery and Ridicule. But here let me be permitted to lay before the Publick fome Circumftances concerning it, of which they have not been yet informed, and upon which they may with absolute Certainty rely.

WHEN the right honourable Gentleman entered into Ministry, he found every thing yielding to his Ambition. The late King, whole Love for his native Country may juftly be numbered among his Virtues, must have certainly been highly fatisfied with a Minister, who fo largely gratified his favourite Paffion: who poured forth the Blood and Treasures of Great Britain into Hanover, with a Profusion, which no other Minister durft have ventured, or must have ventured at the Hazard of his Head. Such were the Effects of that Influence, which he had gained over the People, by repeated Professions of his Zeal for their Service; as if their Interests were not united with those of the other great Members of the State, or as if they could, even in Idea, be service from those of the Sovereign. His Majesty's Servants in Council filently acquiefced, nor would I willingly it impute to them them as a Crime, in this continental Prodigality. Every part of Administration concurred in a Compliance with his Directions ; I am assumed to fay in an implicite Obedience to his Commands. Fleets were equipped; Regiments were raifed, Expeditions appointed, and the Treasury gave forth its Millions to his Order.

THUS did he exercife a Kind of Despotifm, unknown to the Conflitution, and deftructive of every Idea of Liberty, until he was oppofed, for the first Time, even by his own Account, opposed in a Meafure too precipitate, too important and too unjust, to be complied with either by his Majesty, or his Servants. He proposed an immediate Declaration of War against Spain, at a Time, when she was giving us every Affurance of her Inclination to preferve the Peace and Amity, subsisting between the two Nations, and which it is their mutual Interest to preferve.

It is hardly conceivable, that he could either defire, or expect to fucceed in fuch an extravagant Propofal. What ! to declare War, and commence Hoftilities againf: a friendly Nation, without afking a Satisfaction for any fuppofed Infults, a Redrefs of Injuries, or even an Explanation of Grievances. The Laws of Nature and Nations; the Obligations of Treaties; the common Senfe of Equity and Reafon equally difclaim a Proceeding, fo violent, fo unjuft.

BUT what have the Spaniards already done to provoke the Gentleman's Indignation, and juftify his Refentment? He neither urged any particular Inftance of their Partiality to the French; nor any new Violations of our long-contested Rights to cutting Logwood, nor even their Injustice with regard to the Antigallican and her Prize, which, befides fome other Indignities, he temperately endured through the whole Ad-I am leets and

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whole Course of his Administration. But, so it feems, the Fulness of Time for his refigning was not yet arrived; he was not yet tired of guiding and governing. But when he had taken a nearer View of the Port, to which the Vessel was driving with all the Sails he had crowded upon her; when he faw the Rocks and Shallows and Breakers, that threatened his Entrance into the Harbour; when he faw the Coast covered with the ship-wrecked Reputations of former Ministers, he prudently quitted the Helm, and retired, a simple Passenger, to his Cabin.

BUT really what had Spain *already done*? She had written to France to defire her good Offices with Great Britain; that when her Minister was forming the general Articles of Peace, he might likewife pay fome Attention to certain Matters of mutual Complaint between us and the Spaniards, which might possibly occasion fome future Rupture between the two Kingdoms, and disturb the Tranquility of Europe. What is there either to injurious, or offensive in this Proceeding, that could have justified the Nation in declaring War, or could particularly justify the Minister, who had born, with rather a too passive Spirit, fome real Indignities from the Spaniards; fome real Injustice.

"• whole Houfe of Bourbon. But, if the Members of thi. Board are of another Opinion, this is the laft Time I thall ever mix in its Counfels. I was called into Ministry by the Voice of the People, and to them I hold myfelf answerable for my Conduct. I am to thank the Ministers of the *late* King for their Support. I have ferved my Country with Success, but I will not be responsible for the Conduct of the War any longer, than while I have the Direction of it." This last Declaration was by no means equivocal. It was a frank and open Demand of an unlimited Authority, and unconditional Obedience.

THE noble Lord, who prefided in this Council; to whom Years have added the Wifdom of Experience without abating the Vigour and Fire of Youth; whole natural and acquired Abilities are unqueftionably as great, as ever this Gentleman could boaft; who was himfelf as bold a Minister, as ever directed the Affairs of this Nations, made him this temperate Reply. " I find the Gentleman is determined to leave " us, nor can I fay, I am forry for it; fince he would otherwife " have certainly compelled us to leave Him. But if he be refolv-" ed to affume the Right of advising his Majesty, and directing " the Operations of the War, to what Purpose are we called to this " Council? When he talks of being refponfible to the People, he " talks the Language of the Houfe of Commons, and forgets, that " at his Board, he is only responsible to the King. However, though " he may poffibly have convinced himfelf of his Infallibility, ftill it " remains, that we should be equally convinced, before we can re-" fign our Understandings to his Direction, or join with him in " the Meafure he propofes."

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He bore the Rebukings of this Answer without making any Reply, but he had gone too far, though perhaps not without repenting, to retreat. He therefore refigned the Seals, which were received with an Eafe and Firmnefs, which he probably very little expected. His Majefty, with his ufual Goodnefs, expressed his Concern for the Lofs of fo able a Servant, and to fhew the favourable Senfe he entertained of his Services, was graciously pleased to make him an Offer of any Rewards in the Power of the Crown to beftow. Then added, with regard to the Measure proposed, that He would certainly have found himfelf under the greatest Difficulty, how to have acted, even though the whole Council had concurred in fapporting it. A Sentiment of infinite Honour to Him, who uttered it, not only as it afferts a royal Prerogative, which for the Good of his People He should ever preferve, but as it vindicates those nobler Prerogatives of his Reason, his Understanding and his Confcience. But thefe Prerogatives, in all Probability, the right honourable Gentleman never thought of. However, this Condescension, with which he was treated, affected him ftrongly. " I confess, Sir, I had but too much Reason to expect " your Majesty's Displeasure. I did not come prepared for this ex-" ceeding Goodnefs. Pardon me Sir, ----- it over-powers; it op-" preffes me." He burft into Tears.

His Lady's Title, and his own Penfion, were fettled next Day between Lord Bute and Him; when certainly the Title, and probably the Sum of the Penfion, was of his own *free* Choice. His Friends at firft, warmly difclaimed the Infinuation of his taking a Penfion. They called it a bafe and momentary Artifice to blaft his Reputation. They difdained his receiving any Honours from a Mafter, whom he no longer thought proper to ferve. "What Title," thus they they exclaimed, "can be half fo honourable, as being flyled the "Patriot Minister; the Minister of the People? What Honour can "defcend to his Posterity, equal to the historical Truth, that he "has faved his Country from Ruin and Reproach; that he has "raifed her to Glory and Happines?" But fince it is no longer an Infinuation, that he has received his Pension, fince his accepting a Title for his Lady can be no longer an Artifice of his Enemies, his Friends endeavour to defend his blasted Reputation.

THE best attempt for this Purpofe, yet offered to the publick, is in a Pamphlet, entitled, The Conduct of a right konourable Gentleman, justified by Fasts, and upon the Principles of the British Constitution. It is written with Temper, and has a Degree of Knowledge, though certainly not that of the British Constitution, rarely found among us Pamphleteers. His first Proposition is, that Mr. Pitt could not, confiscatly with his own Safety, continue in the high Post he held, after being forced to deviate from the great Lines of conduct he bad chalked out when he first entered upon it. In page 44, he tells us, thus, I think, I have fully demonstrated my first Proposition. As he has not thought proper to inform us what these great Lines of Conduct are (perhaps like Hogarth's Line of Beauty) from which the right honourable Perfon was forced to deviate; nor told us, why, or by whom he was thus forced, we cannot be quite convinced, that he has demonstrated his first Proposition. But how demonstrated? By a tedious Detail of Injuries, committed against us by Spain : a Detail of uncertain, unauthenticated Facts. Let me not feem to fufpect the Writer's own Belief of thefe Facts, but granting them true; granting that Mr Bitt was convinced of their Truth, yet it never can be demonstrated either from their Truth, or his Conviction, that his

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his Refignation was neceffary to his Safety. The Rectitude or Errour of his Conduct in this Inftance arifes from the Reafon, which he himfelf hath given for it, that he was no longer allowed to guide.

THE great Chillingworth repeatedly crics out, the Bible, the Bible is the Religion of Protestants. Thus would I repeat, the Law, the Law is the British Constitution. Where therefore is the Law, by which Mr Pitt's Safety could have been affected, if he had continued in Office, after the Measure he proposed of declaring War against Spain was rejected? " But evil Councellors are liable by the " Law to punifhment." True; and may they ever be liable. Yet the Minister, who does not give any Counfel; who enters his Protest against the Counsel, given by others, shall he be liable to Punishment. as an evil Councellor? If for the fake of preferving that Unanimity, fo neceffary at this dangerous Crifis of our Affairs; if in a modeft Diffidence of his own Judgement, or a lefs outrageous Contempt for that of others, Mr Pitt had filently complied with the united Opinions of His Majefty himfelf, and all the Members of the Cabinet, could fuch Compliance be imputed to him as a Crime; could it endanger his Safety? If there is any Law, that declares the Guilt of fuch Compliance, or threatens his Safety for it, let it be produced; or let it never be urged hereafter, even by his Fears, whether they be real, or affected. At the fame Time, let this Writer, fo learned in the Principles and Maxims of the British Constitution, inform us, where it acknowledges even the Being of a fole, directing, guiding Minister, fince upon fuch a supposed Acknowledgement he rests his Defence of Mr Pitt's Refignation. No; the Conftitution difclaims, abhors and dreads even the Idea of fuch a Minister.

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Ir is the peculiar Excellence of this Conftitution, that the Powers of Government are divided among the three Eftates of which it is composed. Should any one of these Estates become possessed of more than its proper fhare of Power, the Conftitution, with all its Bleffings of Religion, Liberty and Property, is inftantly diffolved. The King becomes a Tyrant, the Houfe of Lords an Ariftocracy, and the People a Democracy. Shall one Man therefore, a fimple Citizen, dare to affume to himfelf all the different Powers of Government? Shall he prefume te make War and Peace? Shall he raife Armies, fit out Fleets, plan Expeditions, and lavish away the publick Treasure, under this new-invented Title, a guiding Minister. The very Claim of fuch a Power is an infolent Outrage to the Laws and Conftitution and Liberty of our Country. If any one Man were capable of executing fuch a Power, yet (I fpeak with all poffible Reverence and Refpect) never fhould it be intrusted, no, not for a Moment to any one Man, even to THE BEST OF SOVEREIGNS. N. 2771 . 1. 1.3

Is among the great Lines of this Gentleman's Conduct, he determined never to join in any Meafure, which he was not allowed to guide; or, in fomewhat modefter Language, if he refolved to refign, whenever he was unable to convince the other Members of the Council, of the Wifdom, the Juffice, or Utility of the Meafures he propofed, permit me to afk, what muft be the Confequence, if every other Member, (and his equal Right, I prefume, will not be denied) fhould take the fame Refolution? In vain will his Majefty call together a Number of his Servants for their Advice in Matters of Doubt and Importance, if each of them in his Turn, may withdraw himfelf from his Duty to his Country, if indeed any fuch Duty be acknowledged, whenever his Opinion is contradicted.

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But it feems the right honourable Perfon is not difabled by his Refignation, from offering bis opinion to bis Majefly, bis Parliament and bis Council, with as much Freedom, and with more weight, than be could have had, had he retained the Seals of his Office. Conduct of a right honourable Perfon, & C. Page 3. In what manner he will exert his Abilities, or fhew forth his Zeal for his Country, and his inviolable Attachment to the Interefts of the People, he probably has not yet determined. Perhaps, he will endeavour to convince the Houfe of Commons, that he is endowed with fome peculiar Spirit, fome certain fuperior Inftinct, fitted for planning and executing all the great Meafures of Government. But I truly hold it of little Importance to the State of the Nation, whether he fits in the filence of his Penfion, or rifes, in the Spleen of difappointed Ambition, a futile Declaimer againft the Meafures of Government.

FINIS.



