

Ruin. It scourged America into Resistance; Ireland it tortured into Rebellion. It disinherited Your Royal Highness of many and flourishing States; and the numerous Seamen of those States it alienated from the English Navy.

It was this System of Government which peopled our Prisons with innocent Persons, for the malignant Persecution of whom Ministers took Shelter under a Bill of Indemnity passed by themselves and their Abettors.

It is this System of Government which hath impoverished more than a Million of our English Fellow-subjects; and which daily augments the Number.

It is this System of Government that covers our once free Land with Bastiles and Barracks; that brands the Millions of England as Cowards, needing foreign Soldiers for Defenders; and that brings back upon us the Doctrines and the Cruelties of the Star Chamber.

This System of Government, by a blind Infatuation, confers on French and other foreign Roman Catholic Officers what it offensively refuses to native Irish, filling the Hearts of the Irish Millions with Indignation and Resentment; combustible Passions, which, so pent up, cannot without Terror be contemplated.

This System of Government hath in the End demonstrated the Wickedness and exposed the Folly of those who, to tear from the People all Hope of a just Reform, forced them into an unjust War. For, after Hundreds of Millions have been insanely squandered, after Rivers of Blood have been inhumanly shed, after the Nation, soiled and disgraced, has been reduced to a forlorn Hope,—after all this has been brought on us by corrupt, short-sighted and tyrannical Men, for putting down and treading under Foot Parliamentary Reform, it is at length seen that in this Reform, and in this Reform alone, national Salvation can be found.

During the Machinations for fettering Your Royal Highness and bringing you under the galling Yoke, you must, Sir, have noticed the Faction's base Ingratitude to the King your Father, for whom with the deepest Hypocrisy they affect the greatest Devotion. That System of Government which has been our Bane; that System of Government which had its Origin in the worst Corruptions, and the most treacherous Counsels of ill Advisers, they made no Scruple to call the King's own System of Government.

There is no View, Sir, of the Nation's Affairs but must impress on Your Royal Highness a Conviction of the pernicious Consequences of a System of Government founded on a House of Commons in which the People are not represented.

Wherefore, the Subject which above all others, for its paramount Importance, we are anxious, Sir, to rivet on your Thoughts, is that which Your Royal Highness has found to be uppermost in our own,—Parliamentary Reform.

It being our confident Hope that the present Session will not pass away without a Renewal of Parliamentary Efforts in that Cause, we believe, Sir, that a public Knowledge of an earnest Desire on the Part of Your Royal Highness for the Success of those Efforts, would assuredly cause their early Triumph.

Convinced indeed we are, that whenever the Crown and the Subject, for mutual Self-Preserva-

tion, shall make common Cause in pursuit of this indispensable Object, the odious, the intolerable Usurpation of the Borough Faction, smitten by the united Rays of the Law, the Constitution, the Throne, and the Nation, must, like a noxious Exhalation, melt in Air and disappear.

Against all Counsel for protecting or fortifying the Borough Faction, who are hostile to your every Interest, we trust Your Royal Highness will be on your Guard. Ours, Sir, were we entitled to offer it, would be Counsel of another Complexion; as will be that of all those loyal and faithful Advisers, whose Desire it is that Your Royal Highness should escape the Toils of the wicked, that you may not be unconstitutionally shackled, and made to appear the Patron of a Faction, instead of standing free, dignified, independent, and illustrious at the Head of the Nation.

Once, Sir, identified with the Borough Faction, Farewell to Greatness! Think, Sir, of a Prince of Asturias and a Godoy! Surrounded by the Toils of that Traitor, the unhappy Prince became instrumental in undermining his own reversionary Throne, and in accelerating the Downfall of the Kingdom of his Inheritance! In the Borough Faction, Sir, behold an Army of Godoys!

It is this Faction, Sir, ostentatious of its usurped Dominion, which, for several Months at a Time, you have now a second Time seen carrying on Government over the English Nation without either a King or a Regent; thus striking in public Opinion at the Utility of the Kingly Office; thus striving to deepen the Root of their own Usurpation, and to accustom the People to the most extravagant Exercise of their hateful Power.

Wherefore, Sir, we repeat, that it is a Faction which alike tramples on the Rights of Crown and People: "All but the Name of King this insolent Faction hath usurped. Nay, Sir, with a King's Authority it is not content; the Faction aims at nothing short of being despotic.

When therefore Your Royal Highness, with us, shall be convinced, that the usurped Authority of the Faction is utterly incompatible with "the Safety, Honour, and Dignity of His Majesty, and the Welfare of his People," which, as Regent, you have sworn "you will in all Things, to the utmost of your Power and Ability, consult and maintain," that Conviction in the Mind of Your Royal Highness will be to us a Source of the most animating Hope, and a Presage of recovered Rights and Liberties.

Were it not, Sir, a Law of Nature, that none can taste the godlike Pleasure reserved to the patriot Saviour, who hath not first acutely felt the Pain of contemplating public Wrongs and Calamities, the Citizens of Westminster would have to regret that the Wrongs and Calamities of their Country should have made the principal Theme of this their first Salutation of Your Royal Highness, in the Character of Regent.

But having not failed to dwell also with Emphasis on that Reform which is the sole Remedy for the Nation's political Evils, they trust they have given the best Proof of their Anxiety that the Blessings of a grateful People should await Your Royal Highness; and that by all Posterity your Name should be venerated as long as human Records shall endure.

It is thus, Sir, the Citizens of Westminster give