

them the confidence of the people, so necessary for conducting the public business, was in direct opposition to the duties of a good citizen. Mischiefs of this kind were to be dreaded in proportion as the country around is less informed, and a man of sense and education has it more in his power to extend the mischief which he is inclined to propagate. Government should not encourage the idea, that they would not prosecute such atrocious conduct; for if this conduct was allowed to pass over, the peace of the country would be endangered.

Error leads to discontent, discontent to a fancied idea of oppression, and that to insurrection, of which the two instances which had already happened were alarming proofs, and well known to the jury.

That the jury, as citizens, must determine whether from the publications of this kind, the prosperity of the country was not endangered; and whether it was not their duty, when a case of this nature was laid before them and the law was applicable, to bring in such a verdict as the law and the evidence would warrant; and show, that these kinds of attacks on the government of the country were not to be suffered with impunity.

THE EVIDENCE.

John Buyers. Know this paper; Mr. Cooper brought it to me on the evening 6th of December, 1799, at my house in Sunbury. He came to me at the door of my house. Asked me to walk in. We walked in. This was between candlelight and daylight. He asked for a candle. He perused this paper which I have in my hand, pointed to his name, and said: "This is my

name, and I am the author of this piece." There was nothing further passed, only he said: "This may save you trouble another time." I knew very well what he meant by it.

Mr. Cooper. Had not you and I been in the habit of frequently joking with each other upon political subjects? O, yes—very often.

Mr. Rawle read that part of the publication which is included in the indictment.

Mr. Cooper. Gentlemen of the jury: If it were true, as it is not true, that, in the language of the Attorney General of the district, I have been guilty of publishing with the basest