

the independence of America the twenty-fourth, designing and intending to defame the President of the United States, and to bring him into contempt and disrepute, and to excite the hatred of the good people against him, in the district aforesaid, and within the jurisdiction of this court, wickedly and maliciously did cause, or procure to be printed and published, a false, scandalous, and malicious writing, against the said President of the United States, of the tenor and effect following, that is to say, "the reign of Mr. Adams (meaning John Adams, Esquire, President of the United States) has hitherto been one continual tempest of malignant passions, as President, he (meaning the said President of the United States) never opened his (meaning the said President of the United States) lips, or lifted his (the said President meaning) pen, without threatening and scolding; the grand object of his (meaning the said President of the United States) administration, has been to exasperate the rage of contending parties, to calumniate and destroy every man who differs from his opinions. Mr. Adams (meaning the said President of the United States) has labored, and with melancholy success, to break up the bonds of social affection, and under the ruins of confidence, of friendship, to extinguish the only beam of happiness that glimmers through the dark and despicable farce of life." And also the following false, scandalous and malicious words, that is to say: "The contriver of this piece had been suddenly converted, as he said, to the presidential (meaning the said President of the United States) system, that is, to a French war, an American navy, a large standing army, an additional load of taxes, and all the other symptoms and consequences of debt and despotism." And also the false, scandalous, and malicious words, of the tenor and effect following, that is to say: "The same system of perfection has been extended all over the continent, every person holding an office, must either quit it, or think and vote exactly with Mr. Adams" (meaning the said President of the United States). And also the false, scandalous, and malicious words, of the tenor and effect following, that is to say:—"Mr. Adams (the said President meaning) and Washington, have since been shaping a series of these paper jobbers into judges and ambassadors: as their whole courage lies in want of shame, these poltroons, without risking a manly and intelligible defense of their own measure, raised an affected yelp against the corruption of the French directory, as if any corruption could be more venal, more notorious, more execrated than their (meaning the said President and the late general Washington) own." And also the false, scandalous, and malicious words, of the tenor and effect, following, that is to say:—"The object with which Mr. Adams (meaning the said President of the United States) was to recommend a French war, professedly for the sake of supporting American (meaning the said United States) commerce, but in reality for the sake of yoking us (meaning the United States of America) into an alliance with the British tyrant." And also the false, scandalous, and malicious words, of the tenor and effect following, that is to say: "While such numbers of the effective agents of the evolution languish in