

tried, and found wanting. I regret to say that I am not able to find one particular in which I can approve of his parliamentary conduct,—no point which might induce me to give him my suffrage. Gentlemen, I do not see how it is possible for you to return him again, without damaging your influence, the respectability of the County, and the honour of Scotland. His parliamentary career has been short, but very decided. I know not of one vote that he ever gave in favour of any liberal measure suited to the growing intelligence of the age. But this is a general condemnation, you allege, and you wish proof more positive and tangible. This I shall give you; but bear in mind that I treat of his conduct in a political point of view, and as he has been our Representative, and comes forward again to solicit this honour, I am entitled to scrutinize his parliamentary conduct, and speak of it as I think it deserves. Now, you will please to recollect that while he was our Representative, he held the command of a vessel, made divers voyages, and allowed our interests to shift for themselves. We might as well have had no Representative as one who, when he should have been watching over all measures affecting this county, was some two or three thousand miles distant. Now this was a gross insult to us,—we bore it very patiently; but what guarantee have we, that the like may not recur again? He has not relinquished his profession, neither is it likely that he will do so, and if called upon to take the charge of a vessel, it is but natural to suppose that he would embrace any opportunity of distinguishing himself, and rising in command. He might resign the