

as was in Europe, bank from that small and insulated position
 of the former, the power and dominion which France was
 rapidly and zealously obtaining in Hindostan would, if per-
 mitted to progress, before long fall to the independence of
 the British India, hence the absolute and unavoidable neces-
 sity of establishing a power in India at least equal to that of
 France, or if possible superior; indeed, the different maritime
 kingdoms of Europe sought a preponderating balance of power
 by the acquisition of dominion in Asia; and if England had
 refused to ply for the extraordinary stake which would re-
 compensate her for the loss of her American provinces, and
 place her at the head of the potentates of the earth, the com-
 manding influence of her opinions and councils, whether for
 good or ill, would have expired with the last century; not
 only, however, was there an imperious necessity to prevent by
 every possible means the dominion of French authority in
 India (or in Egypt), but there arose also the peculiar rights of
 security and safety; the enforcement of which became a
 matter not merely of expediency or prudence, but of absolute
 requirement; this point will be the more readily granted, as
 proved, when it is demonstrated that in the third place it
 was not the natives who expelled in so barbarous a manner
 the British from their peaceful pursuits on the banks of the
 Ganges, but their Moslem conquerors, who, to the number of
 some thousands, kept millions of one of the most timid and
 passive races of men in abject subjection by means of murder,
 torture, and confiscation to an extent never witnessed in the
 western world, and which (being continued for centuries)
 would, under a less genial climate, or with a less enduring
 people, have been terminated by total depopulation. The
 destruction of the Moslem sway in Bengal by Britain, must
 indeed be considered as a blessing rather than an evil by any
 persons who have perused the records of that ill-fated but
 beautiful land, whose historic scroll had for ages been be-
 dewed with barbarous gore, either from internal insurrections, or
 from the attempts of fresh robbers who sought to share in the
 spoils of their more fortunate brethren.