

and forms part of an unanimous address agreed to by the *federal* members of the legislature of Maryland, published in consequence of the Baltimore riots.

CHAP. XLI.

Address to the Federalists of the United States.

GENTLEMEN,

An attentive perusal of the preceding pages can, I hope, hardly have failed to place me beyond the suspicion of the despicable vice, flattery—and must give to my commendation at least the merit of sincerity.

After these introductory remarks, I make no scruple to declare my decided conviction, that in private life I know of no party, in ancient or modern history, more entitled to respect, to esteem, to regard, than the American federalists in general—in all the social relations of husbands, parents, brothers, children, and friends.—There are exceptions. But they are as few as apply to any body equally numerous. Political prejudice, or the widest difference of opinions, has never so far obscured my visual ray, as to prevent me from discerning, or my reasoning faculty from acknowledging this strong, this honourable truth—the more decisive in its nature, from being pronounced by a political opponent.

But, fellow citizens, after this frank declaration in your praise as to private life, and for private virtue, let me freely discuss your public conduct. Believe me I mean not to offend. I trust I shall not. I address you the words of truth. The crisis forbids the use of ceremony. I hope you will give the subject a serious consideration—and receive with indulgence what emanates from candor and friendship.