

merce of England through our sides ; and, by plundering us, she will not only acquire some aid to her treasury, but also give employment and support to great numbers of her people. A third object, and of no small importance, will be the destruction, in part, of our resources ; whereby we should be rendered more dependant on her as allies, and less formidable as enemies.

Such, in my opinion, my fellow citizens, are the objects of France in her present measures towards this country ; and I am firmly persuaded, that the only method of inducing her to abandon those measures, is to convince her by our conduct, that they will not be effectual : To convince her by firm, united, and vigorous measures, that her opinions, respecting us, are erroneous ; and, that we are determined, at all hazards, and under any possible sacrifice, to maintain our rights, repel unjust attacks, and seek reparation for injuries wantonly committed : That we are not a feeble, pusillanimous, or divided people, opposed to our own government, and ready to acquiesce in, or aid the interference of foreigners in our affairs. We ought to shew them, at the same time, that while we are resolved to repel injury, we are willing to make every reasonable advance towards a just accommodation : That while we prepare, firmly and vigorously for war, we are desirous of cultivating peace, as long as any hope of preserving it remains : That although we mean to