

in one vast conflagration.—As if unusual fatalities had combined for our destruction, the torch of war was lighted almost in the same precise moment of time, in the two most important and most widely separated parts of the British dominions. While rebellion erected her standard on the walls of Boston, and displayed the signal of revolt to the Americans, a spirit of wanton enterprise, and insatiate ambition, dictated to the government of Bombay, to mix in the intrigues of the Mahratta Court, and to commence hostilities against an empire, whose resources, pecuniary and military, they were so far from knowing, that they had even a very imperfect acquaintance with its geographical extent and limits.

France, ever wakeful to the true interests of her subjects, stung with the humiliation of a war in which her commerce and her glory had been equally obscured—waiting the hour of political vengeance, and suspending the blow she meditated—France at length openly declared her purpose, and united her formidable force to that of Asia and America.