

Truly then may she be called the preserver of the independence of Europe, a name she had already merited on several former occasions. Those versed in history know that Great Britain has been the shield and bulwark of that balance of power under which Europe was considered one vast republic. Neither able nor willing to disturb a system which her most distinguished Statesmen have supported and admired, she continually opposed the attempts of France and Spain to destroy it, and with the more effect, because her political power never could be dangerous, however brilliant her achievements.—In her interference the nations beheld only an anxiety to preserve the general tranquility and the liberty of all. This eminent service she performed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when Philip of Spain aimed at universal dominion; and again when Louis the 14th sought to trample on the liberties of Europe.—Happy was it for the World that Great Britain adopted the measures she did, when the revolutionary volcano broke forth. Happy for the liberty of man, that her situation was insular.

Let us then thankfully and devoutly acknowledge the mercy and goodness of Almighty God for protecting His Majesty and His dominions during the whole of this arduous contest; and for the signal and glorious victories obtained by His arms, & those of his Allies; and considering them the precursors of a secure and honourable peace; they cannot be too highly appreciated, nor can our gratitude be too warm.

Justly may we thank our heavenly Father,
that,