

of the wicked shall not finally prevail,—it is proper that we should “hear the rod, and who hath appointed it;” that we should be sensible of the evil, which we suffer, regarding it as a warning sent from God, to make us reflect upon our ways, and amend our doings.

HAPPY, beyond example, in an excellent Constitution of Government,—happy in the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty, and in the security of our persons and property, under the protection of equitable Laws, a wise administration, and a Prince, who may truly be called the Father of his People; possessing national advantages superior, perhaps, to what any people ever enjoyed before,—at the present moment, we behold all these advantages suspended on the hazard of war.

A turbulent and ambitious Foe, apparently raised up by providence as a scourge to the present age, stung with envy and jealousy of that degree of national prosperity, which Heaven hath hitherto vouchsafed unto us, employs all his art and energy to deprive us of these inestimable blessings. The
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