

him an indulgent Parent ; but Rome would have felt the bad example for ever.

Though the Americans urged, as you pretend, by our ill-usage, have been compelled to apply to France—it does not, in my opinion, lessen the offence. Were a child of Mr. Burke's to apply to his natural enemy for aid to resist his Father, I presume he would not think it any proof of the gentleness of his disposition, or that it entitled him the sooner to forgiveness. It is an easy thing to expatiate over the wide fields of declamation, and to cull its flowers at pleasure ; but the moment we bring home the application to ourselves, we are convinced of its absurdity. Were you inclined to examine every side with that accuracy which you certainly possess, you would find that the Americans can look even at Monarchy with no very great aversion, by offering, (as you say) to throw themselves into the arms of France. Had liberty been their only object, they never would have bartered it for defence ; nor while they were complaining of the deprivations of Freedom from one quarter, would they voluntarily give it up in another.

Give me leave, Sir, proceeding along with your Letter, to offer some Objections to that great principle which you think so clear, and which you deliver in such decisive language,—“ *That the disposition of the People of America is wholly averse to any other than a free Government.*” Without dwelling at this mo-

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