

great right could in some proper and some peaceable manner have been blended with the just claims of the Americans: that the restoration of our own constitution at home might have gone hand in hand with the re-establishment of the franchises of our fellow-subjects beyond the Atlantic. We might then have hoped for the peace, the union, the harmony of the parts and for the grandeur, the splendor, the prosperity, the stability of the whole; I will not say until time shall be no more, which is not the lot of mortality; but perhaps with a duration and to a degree hitherto unexampled in the history of mankind. We should then have had reason to bless the unfathomable wisdom of Providence for leading us by these broils to so fortunate an end; although not to thank those thoughtless and headlong men, who were the authors of them. But these unhappy troubles exceeding the common course and the peaceable bounds of our constitution seem to have made any such measure now impossible; even if it was not so before. Should however in the future revolutions of fate our late provinces ever come to a considerable power and to an extensive influence among nations;