

imminent danger of invasion? shall we disgrace our navy, by admitting, that our ten ships of war, which were, during the *past summer*, superior to the British force on this coast, were unable to repel, predatory incursions? was there *any danger*, that the commanders of British ships, uninstructed, as they must have been, by their own government, which was ignorant of the war, would make a predatory descent, on the shores of the United States? besides, were these accidental, temporary, predatory excursions, the "invasion" contemplated by the constitution, which the arm of the national government, and its fortresses would be incompetent, to "repel?" could it be supposed, that the framers of the constitution intended, that the president, should order out the militia, and keep them embodied, during the whole of a maritime war, through fear of a temporary, occasional descent, by a privateer or a frigate? are not the *local militia*, while at *home*, amply competent, to repel small enterprizes? if not, we make a grand parade about our militia, to no purpose, and worse than to no purpose. But this is not so. The militia, called together, *without any previous notice*, drove before them Earl Percy, with 3000 veterans; and the militia, unembodied until the moment a fleet should appear in our offing, would, in twenty four hours, repel any British force, which *could possibly* come here, without having previous information.

Was there, then, any serious danger in June last, or has there been since, of an "invasion" by *sea*, from Great-Britain? did the president *apprehend* any? if he did, he betrayed the country, by sending away the troops, from the place, where he *did* expect "invasion" to another place, where he did *not* fear it, but where he meant to *make an invasion* on an inferior enemy.

Could it be feared, that Britain would *invade* us, *before she knew of the war*? could it be feared, that she would do it, *after she* heard of it, and when we found her, liberating, and sending away all American ships, and an immense amount of American property, under the hopes of peace, to be produced by the repeal of the orders in council? is an "invasion" feared, even now, by any one man in the United States?—NO—it is a groundless, insulting pretence. Great-Britain, occupied in Spain, and in the Baltick, and pressed, unexpectedly and cruelly, pressed, by the tools of France in this country, will scarcely be able to defend her colonies, from butchery, and plunder and conquest. This was the calculation upon which the war was undertaken. It was a repetition of the old fable of the sick lion. Never would the war have been undertaken, if any real danger of "invasion" had existed.

If then, no danger of "invasion" existed by *sea*, will it be pretended, that we were in danger of "invasion" by *land*? where is the brazen faced, party politician, who will advance such a pretence? will the partizans of Mr. Madison tell us this, when they have so often promised us, the barren provinces of two *Canadas*, as a compensation for the loss of our commerce, our blood, and our treasure? will those men, who proposed and discussed a bill, for the occupation, and annexation, of the two *Canadas*, to the United States, pretend, that these provinces will *invade* us? will