

and all the future possible occurrences to which it might lead, he conceived that he should not do justice to the feelings and public spirit of that House, if he entertained, for a moment, an idea that there could arise any difference of opinion as to the measures which such circumstances would make it necessary to adopt. There was no occasion for him to enlarge upon the facts stated in his Majesty's message; the bare mention of them, he was persuaded, would prove sufficient to induce the House to give their concurrence (and he should hope, their unanimous concurrence) to the motion with which he should have the honour to conclude. These facts were: First, that some of his Majesty's subjects had been forcibly interrupted in a trade which they had carried on, for years, without molestation, in parts of America where they had an incontrovertible right of trading, and in places to which no country could claim an exclusive right of commerce and navigation. They knew that this interruption had been made by a seizure of a ship's cargo and company without any previous notice, and in a moment of profound peace. They knew that the officers and crew had been sent as prisoners of war to a Spanish port, without the pretence of any regular jurisdiction, or without even having gone through the forms of condemnation uniformly resorted to in cases of prize at a time of general hostility. He wished to abstain from using any words of aggravation, but the bare mention of the facts which he had stated, must be sufficient to induce a

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