

mer times. It required a giant mind, and talents the most rare and uncommon to guide the vessel of State through the storm of political elements, and to save the shattered wreck which had survived the tempest. The experience of modern ages presents no example of a country oppressed beneath so superior a combination of enemies, as the British empire had sustained for many years. The league of Cambray in the sixteenth century, or the great alliance formed in the beginning of the present century, for reducing the exorbitant power of Louis the XIVth, present only a feeble image of the more universal and incredible efforts made to shake the foundations of the English grandeur, and which have been attended with too much success. The convulsions which overturned the Republic of Venice, and shook the throne and monarchy of France, were in a great degree confined to Europe, and to the continent of the Old World; but we were destined to see America and Asia unite their forces, and extend the horrors of war over the most remote extremities of the planet, through every latitude, embracing both hemispheres, and involving the world