

thing in the end by the contest, but the exercise of arms. In such wars the interests of mankind in general are safe. For that equal balance which has been maintained so long in the great European republic, does not admit of one nation's making large encroachments, or conquests, on another. But, in the present war, we are to retain, or lose forever, not our new provinces, that are hardly yet a part of the state, but our ancient colonies, that are coeval with our navigation and commerce, those great branches that are deeply engrafted into the commonwealth, which have grown with our growth, and cannot now be lopt off, without hazard that the tree shall thereby perish. An object of such importance requires national fortitude and perseverance.

As Christians, and as men, no doubt, we ought to wish and pray for peace. Every thing in the present case prompts us to such a prayer; but always with this condition understood, that it be equitable and safe. How far we may hope for a return of affection and allegiance from the present generation of colonists, who are now in actual rebellion