

be distinctly understood by him, and the whole understood in system. A weak minded man is incapable of this. He will often mistake excellencies for faults---a partial derangement for a radical defect,---the effect for the cause. While in the application of remedies he will employ means which, instead of improving what is faulty, may lead to ruin. A child entrusted with the command of a shattered vessel on a tempestuous ocean is not less fit for the task, than is the imbecile politician, who heads a party and sets about reforming abuses *in a troubled state*.--- And do not suppose that impudence will ever be a substitute for moral firmness, or presumption an equivalent for high talent. But,

Further, *a leader in reform must be a good man*. No bad man ever was, or ever will be, an efficient corrector of moral evils. Such a man wants the steadiness of purpose, the ardent philanthropy, the sincere love of truth, the admiration of moral beauty---and, above all, he wants the fear and love of God, without which no man was ever well qualified for dealing with human institutions that required either nice modifications, or severe correction. When God intends to reform and to spare a people, he raises up among them wise and good men. But when the same Omnipotent Being is about to destroy a people for their sins, he permits *evil spirits* to arise among them.--- And they are destroyed. Woe, woe to that land! the leading reformers of which are men without talents, or men of great talents and no principle---men who live by the mob---wield the minds of the rabble, by feeding their insolence and vanity with falsehood and adulation. God's vials of wrath are near to being poured out upon that country that is cursed with such influential Demagogues.

In a word, my brethren, stick to your British connection, cleave with heart and soul to the Constitution. While we have the Constitution and British justice to look to, I will hope for every thing that is good. But the former lost, and the Palladium is gone ---and if we are abandoned by Great Britain, or crushed by her just indignation, what is to become of us? Then, indeed, shall liberty perish---then, indeed, shall there be oppression, tyranny, and wretchedness to fulfil the predictions, and glut the revenge, of our bitterest enemies. Think, then, O think seriously of the civil blessings you enjoy, and let no man cajole you out of these, or violently rob you of them. But

Second, *let me urge you to cherish a sincere respect for our Constitution, and also for the country with which we stand connected.*

It were easy, as it were vain, to frame ideal systems, that might appear even more perfect than the British Con-