

of this sect? In short, the union is unnatural, and it cannot possibly continue.

It is true, our situation is in some respects more arduous than it was. France and Spain have armed against us, and it does not appear that we have any foreign allies. We must not, however, despair. The national jealousy, which subsists between these powers, will, in all probability, prove favourable to us. Instead of strengthening, they may weaken each others efforts. If we should not prove successful, our situation must make us friends; for it is not the interest of Europe to permit us to be sacrificed. Holland will afford us assistance in time, though she seems unwilling to give it at present. She is a trading power, and will endeavour to make the *best bargain*. The market is certainly favourable to her; but when we shew less anxiety to purchase, she will become more willing to treat. But even should we remain totally deserted, and continue without assistance, the situation is not unparalleled in our history. “When poor old England stood alone, and had not the access of another kingdom, and yet had more, and as potent enemies as it now hath, yet the King of England prevailed (g).

I do not, however, mean to represent our situation as that of perfect ease. It has great

(g) Sir Edward Coke, Parliamentary History, Vol. vii.  
p. 400.

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