

that power were anterior in date to those which had been alleged against Great Britain, and they were aggravated by the additional circumstances of their being in direct violation of the Treaty concluded between the United States and France, in 1778. Great Britain had, on fair representation made to her, treated with America for the removal of every cause of complaint, and had actually concluded for that purpose an agreement of mutual liberality and reciprocal benefit. France pursued a line directly opposite to this, and entirely conformable to those principles of injustice, and violence towards foreign countries, which form so striking a feature in the system of Jacobin government. Remonstrances on this subject had, from time to time, been made by the American government to the different parties which so rapidly succeeded each other in the administration of public affairs in France. In answer to these, the language of France was occasionally varied according to the circumstances of the moment, and the successes or defeats of her armies in Europe. But no real prospect of redress was in fact ever held out on any other terms than that the United States should consent to join France in a war against Great Britain, which America justly considered as wholly unprovoked and offensive on the part of France, and defensive on that of Great Britain.—All hope of carrying this point was at once precluded by the signature and completion of the Treaty between Great Britain and America; which, although it contained a reserve for the full execution of all former engagements between America and France, was calculated to maintain a lasting peace and friendship between the British and American governments. The rage occasioned by this disappointment soon induced the rulers of France to throw aside the