

may the very Form of the Constitution destroyed? We have generally beaten the *French*, and always been foolish enough to follow their Fashions; I was in Hopes we should never have taken the Fashion of *French* Government; but from our numerous Armies, and the military Turn of our Nobility, I am afraid we are running into it as fast as we can. And, unless something can be done, to bring back our Constitution to its first Principles, we shall find, that we have triumphed, only to make ourselves as wretched as our Enemy; that our Conquests are but a poor Compensation for the Loss of our Liberties; in a Word, that, like *Wolfe*, falling in the Arms of Victory, we are most gloriously—*undone*!

But though I have drawn so melancholy a Picture, of the Dangers which threaten us with the Loss of our Liberties, it is with no other Design, than to exhort those who are placed at the Helm, to set about the Repairs of our shattered Vessel, as soon as she can be brought safe into Harbour. After the Peace is once settled, it ought to be the great Object of our Ministers, to devise every Expedient, and to adopt every Plan, that may extricate this unhappy Constitution from the Dangers I have described. Considering the low Ebb of *France*, we have some Reason to hope that when Peace is once restored, upon solid Terms, it will not soon be interrupted. Much, therefore, may be done during those Years of Tranquillity; if our Ministers be diligent and faithful in this great Work of reviving the Constitution. The sacred and inviolable Application of the *Sinking-fund*, which the Increase of our Trade, and other Circumstances, have so greatly augmented, and must still augment, will operate gradually, and effectually. Universal and invariable Oeconomy, must