

## INTRODUCTION.

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### *Exposition of the Causes of the War.*

PERHAPS it is impossible, in the nature of things, that there should exist a cordial political connexion between the *Republic* of the U. States and the *monarchy* of Great Britain. There is something in the national pride of England that can never forgive the declaration of independence; and on our side, the sufferings, prison ships, burnings, massacres and scalplings of the revolution have not been forgotten. It is true, that the ties of a common ancestry, similarity of language and manners, have been urged as natural inducements to a close and friendly alliance between the two countries. These causes operate feebly, when opposed by a powerful spirit of commercial rivalry, and the resentments springing from the revolutionary war, mutually cherished by both nations.

The hostility of England has been coeval with our national existence. How easy it is to furnish the incredulous, irrefragable evidence of the truth of this position! The events of the revolutionary war constrained the British government to recognize our independence; yet she refused to execute the treaty of 1783. The western posts from Oswego to Michilimackinac were forcibly retained, contrary to the express provis-