

ambition and design to divide and inflame us against each other, and to renew the miseries which they have so often entailed upon this country. The wicked, the seditious and the deluded provoke, and the law punishes; and between the horrid excesses of the one, and the necessary rigour of the other, a great part of the kingdom is filled with fire and blood. The war, of which hitherto we have only felt the distant effects, appears now to be approaching to our doors, and to the seats of our family comforts and enjoyments. The French bully, and vapour, and threaten, and their emissaries and supporters, who no longer conceal themselves, repeat their threats, and exaggerate their power, and are a thousand times more virulent, and vindictive, and sanguinary than even our ancient and natural enemies—all is alarm, and terror, and dismay, and despondency.

It is indeed true, that we are not without something to put to the other side of the account. We have had many signal successes in the course of the war—we have taken many fine islands and colonies from our enemies—we have never seen their fleets without beating them—we have taken the round of them, and all in their turns have vanished before the superior skill and conduct of our Admirals, and the bravery of our seamen; and, what never could have been said on any other occasion, scarce a ship of war of ours has been taken; *and not one foot of British land has been lost in any part of the world!*

It must also be allowed, that our enemies are still in a worse state than we are. There is not under the sun, there never has been under the sun, a more wretched people than the French: their King, their Queen; many of the royal blood; the best of their nobility, of their clergy, of their gentry, of their wealthy and respectable merchants, and even of their honest mechanics, and farmers, and labourers, have shed their blood on the scaffold, or been shot, stabbed, drowned, or poisoned. Numbers of all these descriptions have fled to other countries, destitute and helpless, and of those who remain, a great part have been plundered of their property, and deprived of all the comforts and conveniences of life. Religion, law, order, and good government, are at an end among them. Even they who submit to the present rulers, and swear allegiance to the present power, cannot hope, for a day, to be safe from the general oppression: if they escape either death or banishment; they  
are