

enough on their principles; it is for you now to cooperate with us in saving the country upon ours.

For ourselves, we have no doubt concerning the first step to be taken in this business. We have long acted under the auspices of such men as Caleb Strong and Rufus King. It is our purpose still to be advised by them. We have long lamented, that our sense of duty and love of country prevented us from making an active effort, to parry the disgraces and ills, of which we have been the subjects and witnesses. Our hands are, at length, unbound. We may now oppose one enemy, without strengthening another. We are ordered to take our arms. This we do cheerfully. Our purpose is to grapple the enemy whenever he comes within our reach, and drive him from our soil. It is a question of honour and not of expediency. It requires no deliberation. We are stationed at a post, which to abandon, without a vigorous resistance, would be foul disgrace.

We well understand the immediate object of our efforts, and, in general, the men under whose direction they must be made. At the same time, let us be sensible to the difficulties of our situation, that we may encounter them with fortitude, and the sooner overcome them. We have yet to arrange ourselves in such system and subordination, as may give our exertions the greatest effect. There are many in all parts of the United States, and of all parties, with whom we would gladly cooperate in the service of our country. But we have no regular communication, no common council and authority. Our only bond of union is a similarity of sentiments and wishes. We must wait patiently then, till some combination can be made of the resources, talents and patriotism of the country. If such a combination be possible, we expect of those, whose proper office it is to form it, not to be idle. But though, by the weakness and fatuity of the general government, the individual states have become, in a measure, isolated from each other, it is not at present a great misfortune to Massachu-