

than if its commerce were interdicted, and its means curtailed; and that such inexpedient policy must consequently tend to lengthen this war, to the detriment of our commerce, of our navigation, of our finances, and of our national prosperity; while the enemy, on the other hand, are left comparatively to the pressure only of their own enactments.

That, under the impression of all the foregoing considerations, your memorialists presume to conceive, that Government never could have designed to benefit the enemy, by this extraordinary advantage to their export-trade, and that the aforementioned act of parliament, permitting the entry of North American cotton-wool by neutral vessels, must consequently have been overlooked, or that otherwise his Majesty's Ministers would, no doubt, have taken such steps as would have, ere now, put an effectual stop to the many baneful consequences resulting therefrom: And they now humbly pray your Lordship's immediate attention to this important subject, in full confidence that such enactments and blockades will speedily ensue, as will completely prevent our enemies