

language may have been held by those who knew where it would be agreeable, and that there may be men in this army, as in all others, who would sacrifice their honour and conscience for pay and promotion; but from all the letters I have seen, and all the accounts I have heard, I am persuaded that the English army is averse to the American war, not only in its principle, but the mode of carrying it on; and that they regard it as the grave of their past, and the insuperable obstacle to their future glory. But to judge of this question, says the Commissioner, *we must know the disposition of Holland, the Northern Powers, Portugal, and Spain, the resources of this country, as well as the difficulties to encounter in America.*

To these points I can only offer conjectures, which appear to me to be founded on reason. With regard to Holland, you have already shewed her what you would do, if you dared. You have attempted to shackle her trade with every power with whom you shall be at war; and as you are so situated as to command the navigation of the channel, whilst you are

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