

short exhortation, published on June last, at New York, by a convention of more than a hundred clergy, from seven or eight different provinces, which contains an observation so remarkable, that it deserves even your Lordship's attention. "It gives us," say they, "the greatest pleasure to say *from our own certain knowledge* of all belonging to our communion, and from the best means of information of the far greatest part of all denominations in this country, that the present opposition to the measures of administration does not in the least arise from a disaffection to the King, *or a desire of separation from the parent state.*" So far are the Americans from wishing to become independent, that some of the most zealous provinces, fearing lest a temporary confederacy, though adopted for the sole purpose of defence, should finally terminate in a separation from the parent state, have expressly instructed their delegates to be cautious in adopting any measures of that kind. The plan of a proposed confederacy (which was to last for two years, or till the grievances were removed) was laid before the provincial congress held at Hillsborough, in North Carolina, 21st August, 1775; when after mature consideration, the congress in committee came to the following resolution.

"That the committee have taken into consideration the plan of general confederation between the united colonies, and are of opinion that the same is not at present eligible; and it is also the opinion of this committee, that