

into those vast lakes or inland seas which occupy so much space to the west of us. But to leave the natural and come to the political state. We know, the *French* have erected a line of forts from the *Ohio* to *Nova Scotia*, including all the inestimable country to the west of us, into their exorbitant claim. This, with infinite justice, the *English* resented, and in this cause our blood has been spilled, which belongs to our consideration.

"II. The present state of North America. A writer upon this present time says the parts of *North America* which may be claimed by *Great Britain* or *France* are of as much worth as either kingdom. That fertile country to the west of the Appalachian or Alleghany Mountains, (a string of eight or nine hundred miles in length,) between *Canada* and the *Mississippi*, is of larger extent than all *France*, *Germany*, and *Poland*, and all well provided with rivers, a very fine wholesome air, a rich soil, capable of producing food and physic and all things necessary for the conveniency and delight of life, in fine, the garden of the world, Time was, we might have been possessed of it. At this time two mighty kings contend for this inestimable prize. Their respective claims are to be measured by the length of their swords. The poet says, the gods and opportunity ride post; that you must take her by the forelock, being bald behind. Have we not too fondly depended upon our number? *Sir Francis Bacon* says, 'The wolf careth not how many the sheep be.' But numbers, well spirited with the blessing of heaven, will do wonders, when by military skill and discipline, the commander can actuate (as by one soul) the most numerous bodies of armed people. Our numbers will not avail till the colonies are united, for while divided, the strength of the inhabitants is broken like the petty kingdoms in *Africa*. If we do not join heart and hand in the common cause against our exulting foes, but fall to disputing among ourselves, it may really happen as the governor of