

about as big as the New-England states. She never would have attained to a primary rank among the European nations, if she had not cultivated and encouraged a navy. Her insular situation renders it necessary that she should maintain one. She owes her liberties to that, and that alone—These propositions are as obvious to her as they are to us.

Can it be belived, that she will surrender her maritime superiority? Will she make peace, while her arms are tarnished with the stains which we have imprinted upon them? Will she not say, "my navy is my only defence, it must not only be superior, but its reputation must be unimpaired?" "However disposed I might have been to make peace with America, I cannot do it till this disgrace is wiped off."

Will any man doubt her power to do this? Is there any one so prejudiced as to believe, that she cannot rouse her citizens to fight with as much gallantry and skill as ours?

We are the same people—have the same general features of character, and though we have not degenerated, I see no reason to presume that we have improved on the original stock.

We have seven frigates, and four or five smaller ships—She has 200 ships of the line, 250 frigates, and three or four hundred smaller vessels of war.

It is in her power to send a squadron of line of battle ships, to destroy our marine, without a contest.

If Bonaparte, starting with the old marine of France, of Spain, and Holland, comprizing nearly 200 ships of the line, devoting yearly to his navy alone 150 millions of livres, 30 millions of dollars, (amounting to the whole of our war expenses, for both army, navy, and civil list) has been unable, during twelve years, to make the smallest head against the British navy, can we expect to do it with our little squadron, and without any revenue but loans?

It is said, however, that we are a different race of men from the French and Dutch. *We* can beat Great-Britain, though *they* could not. Both France and Holland have obtained as many and more signal victories, in single ships, over Great-Britain, than we have done. Nay, they have been more formidable rivals to her than we could possibly become in many years. And yet the *consciousness of the absolute necessity* of her navy to her existence, has made Great-Britain rise superiour to all her enemies or rivals.

It is impossible, from the constitution of human nature, that you can ever rouse a nation to so great exertions, for a question on which its existence does not depend, as for one upon which it does. Hence nations will not fight as strenuously in foreign wars, in wars of conquest, as in wars of self-defence, and when their fire-sides are invaded.

Now, though our marine is important to us, it is by no means so vital an interest, as it is to Britain. To us it guards important rights, and produces a security to a trade necessary to our opulence—with her, it is the bulwark which defends her temples and her fire-sides.

Our farmers, though they would maintain a respectable navy.