

Why does she endeavour to excite the Russians and the Turks against Austria, which offers and even solicits peace on terms highly advantageous to her? Why does she attempt to bribe Prussia with a part of the spoils of Austria, to assist her in reducing it under her power? Why does she strive to arm every neutral state against the commerce of the English, and to exclude their ships from every port? Why does she declare that she will never lay down her arms until she has broken and destroyed the maritime strength of England?

It is that she has formed a plan of aggrandizement at the expense of all her neighbours: That after the example of the Romans, those ferocious and systematic destroyers of mankind, she has resolved to 'make all Europe, and finally the whole world, bend beneath her yoke; a resolution in the accomplishment whereof she pursues the Roman policy, of dividing to destroy; of bribing one nation with the spoils of another; of inciting the stronger to inaction, reducing the weak to submission, and by the resources of the one, and the connivance of the other, breaking the strength of those whose power she dreads, and whose policy she cannot deceive.

And is this a project, my fellow-citizens, in which we ought to wish her success? Is it desirable that the balance of power, whereby the great nations of Europe have heretofore been mutually checked, and in some degree confined within the limits of justice and moderation, should be wholly destroyed, to make way for one uncontrouled and despotic master, whose power being unchecked, must, from the very constitution of human nature, be constantly abused? Is this a plan which deserves the good wishes of this country? Shall we be more safe when Europe shall have been reduced under the uncontrouled influence of France, than while her power is checked and balanced by that of other nations, who will be induced, by the desire of preserving that balance, to shield us from her aggressions? I believe that every principle of sound policy will answer in the negative.

Had France, however, been content to pursue her projects of ambition in Europe, and leave us in peace,