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cies of their past lives, and that they have lived so long. A like temper now becomes us all. We have abundant reason to be thankful to the God of our fathers, that this dreadful calamity has not sooner overtaken us. It is within the recollection of many of you, that in 1794, eighteen years ago, it would have befallen us, had the man by whom it has been now proclaimed been able to effect his purpose. At that time indeed we had received much greater provocation than any of which we now complain. It is well known that Mr. Madison exerted his utmost influence in Congress for a declaration of war, and in all probability would have effected it, had not the great and good father of his country stood as a bulwark against him. To the administration of Washington he was inveterately hostile; and whoever, with an impartial eye, has observed his official conduct, especially toward England, from that day to this, must be constrained to believe that he has been uniformly seeking what he has now obtained.

In the mean while however, notwithstanding all the spoliations of the powers at war, we have been growing, beyond all former example, in riches and in whatever constitutes the prosperity and happiness of a people. Wealth has flown in upon our sea-ports, every foot of ground belonging to them has risen in value more than a thousand per cent, the number of buildings has doubled and trebled, many of them have risen spacious and splendid palaces, and our merchants have become princes in opulence, while every class of tradesmen, mechanics, and labourers, have had full and constant employ, and more than double wages.