

A
DISCOURSE

OCCASIONED BY THE

WAR WITH GREAT-BRITAIN.

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JAMES IV. 1.

Whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts, that war in your members?

WAR is the scourge of man, the instrument of desolation and death. It has been raging in our world in almost every age. Ever since Cain arose against his brother, and shed his *righteous blood*, the earth has been a field of battle, and men have been the destroyers of one another. The mournful and ruinous effects of war have been felt among all nations. What is the history of the world, but an affecting account of contests, of massacres, of wasting sieges and bloody battles?

This great calamity having come upon our land, it is fuitable we should reflect on the evils it produces, and inquire whence it comes. Among all the judgments, with which God in his righteous providence has visited our guilty world, no one is so much to be deprecated as war. What wretchedness and misery has it occasioned! How many have fallen by the hand of the assassin! How many flourishing cities have been plundered and burnt! How many populous countries laid waste! How many thousand millions of the human race has the sword of war devoured! The sacred history gives an account of one battle in which *twelve hundred thousand men* were engaged; and that one of the armies lost, in a single day, *five hundred thousand chosen men*. This is the greatest slaughter in one engagement of which we have an account. Such