

to ubraid us, claims a surrender of our interests and our rights, and the direction of our affairs? I hear you with one voice answer, NO. "The sons of America," I hear you cry, "should her wise and moderate endeavours to preserve her rights by peaceable means still prove unsuccessful, will again at her call beat their plowshares into swords, and the proud and insolent aggressor shall soon be convinced, that a brave and just people, though long patient under injuries from those whom once it loved, will rouse at last, and desirous of peace will remember that it must sometimes be preserved by war."

The American people, then my fellow citizens, and you as part of them, are called upon to decide between their own government, and that of another nation; to decide whether their affairs shall be conducted by those whom they have selected for that purpose from among themselves, or by the agents of a foreign power: Whether that power under pretence of a treaty, which it asserts an exclusive right to expound, and claims the privilege of violating, as often as its operation shall be found disadvantageous,* and of the law of nations, which it has publicly professed to disregard,†

* See Mr. Adet's note of October 27, 1796; where this right is expressly asserted.

† See the letter of M. Tilly, French Charge des affaires at Genoa, to the Secretary of State of that republic, dated