

the present Northern Colonies ask nothing of the parent country but that common justice which shall enable them to recover from those inflictions. If the foregoing statements and the reasoning upon them are generally correct, (and I sincerely believe them to be so) the British North American provinces appear to be well worthy the protection of the parent country; not for *their* happiness alone, but for the sake of the advantages which she herself may derive from them, provided she adopts the proper means of making them productive; and as it does appear that *not expense*, but management, is all that is required to effect this end, it becomes a peculiar hardship that, after all the injuries they have hitherto suffered, the colonies should yet have to contend against foreigners for nearly the only trade yet left to them; and among those foreigners that enemy from whom they have sustained the most severe afflictions.

52. It is now, Sir, high time that I should wind up this address, which I will do by exhibiting the most obvious consequences that would result, *were the colonies of British North America transferred to a rival power*. In the present state of the European continent, it is more than probable the civilized world will generally continue at peace during some years; and that the American interests will (notwithstanding the late angry negotiations between the United States and Spain) have a tendency to become more and more pacific, provided there should be any vigour and wisdom in the councils of the Cortes. It is also highly desirable that peace should continue to exist between Great Britain and the United States. There can be no question that it is essentially the interest of both powers to promote it; but those angry debates and sometimes enactments, which are almost annually brought into congress, are so many instances of irritated feelings, that exhibit a character of ill will in the American government, in spite of our manifold concessions, which keep that nation in a continued fever against this country; but which I believe are cherished more by the government and the orators, to keep up their influence over the mob*, than by that respectable class which constitutes the middling or great mass of the people; and in no country is that class of society better informed or more worthy in every respect than in the United States of America. But as the effects of such angry ebullitions may by chance lead, as they often have before, beyond the bounds of congressional debates; and what *has occurred* in a degree, may, as another emollient, be

* Paragraph 34.