

depopulate their country—a period in which we cannot suppose they have used flattering terms, nor professed more than they intended.

The congress, in their petition to the King, after declaring their attachment to his person and family, proceed thus, “Connected with
“ Great Britain by the strongest ties that can
“ unite societies, and deploring every event
“ that tends in any degree to weaken them, we
“ solemnly assure your Majesty, that we not only
“ most ardently desire the former harmony
“ between her and these colonies may be restored,
“ but that a concord may be established between
“ them, upon so firm a basis, as to perpetuate
“ its blessings uninterrupted by any
“ future dissensions.” In their address to the
inhabitants of Great Britain they say, “Give
“ us leave most solemnly to assure you, that
“ we have not yet lost sight of the object *we*
“ *have ever had in view*, a reconciliation with
“ you on constitutional principles, and a restoration
“ of that friendly intercourse which, to
“ the advantage of both, we till lately maintained.” If it should be said, that the congress has not delivered the true motives of its own conduct, nor the sense of its constituents, we are furnished with copious evidence to the same import by the people themselves, who have lately been convened on public occasions in most of the provinces. I should not trouble your Lordship by repeating on this occasion any thing that has been advanced by men who from their profession are not supposed to be well versed in politics, but we have seen a