

“ ampled outrages were hurried on.” The evidence being thus stated, we shall continue to think that peace might be restored to America by a change of measures ; for I am certain that the Americans believe and hope that a change of men shall yet produce such a change of measures. To that alone they still trust for the comfort and advantage of remaining a part of this empire. To their own valour and to God they now trust for the preservation of their liberty.

The second position which your Lordship has endeavoured to establish is, that the Americans do not wish for peace, they would not be satisfied with relief from particular grievances ; they aim at independence, and would throw off their subjection to the crown of Great Britain. As this very charge is circulated through every part of the kingdom by those who would justify the oppressor by casting a darker shade on the oppressed, I have taken much pains to discover the evidence on which it is founded ; but after all my researches I cannot find any better reason for supposing that the Americans desire to be independent, than their own uniform declarations that they do *not* desire it. Davenant, for aught we know, was a very honest man and a good prophet ; but prophecies are not usually adduced in evidence of facts. The arguments that are brought from New England, seem to operate against your Lordship's position ; for if the troubles that appeared in Massachusetts in the reign of William and Mary, give any evidence that inde-