

These considerations, so inauspicious to my hopes, shall not deter me from the honest discharge of what I deem to be a duty. And could I discern in the public mind, a willingness to fix its attention upon the causes which have brought the country to its present critical state, I should not altogether despair of its fortunes. A general conviction of the dangers which threaten its peace and liberties, would give energy enough to public opinion to prevent the shock of a British war. But unless more just opinions prevail among the soundest portion of the community, upon the causes and consequences of such a war; unless the public mind, generally, can be touched with fear, and kindled into activity, war, at no distant period, with its long train of evils, must come. I do not undertake to prophesy the exact time of this event; it is enough to know that the temper and policy of the administration will one day bring it to pass: And it is chiefly owing to a spirit of forbearance, growing out of the unexampled situation of Great Britain, that we are not now at war with her, and fast bound to the destinies of France. That spirit of hostility in the administration towards Great Britain, one great source of their power, as well as its aliment, which gains strength by an association with the honest prejudices of federalists; and above all, the appalling demands of France, which cannot be resisted without the sacrifice of the feelings, interests, and power of a party; must issue in a British war—an unhallowed war to us—without the sanction of justice or necessity; which can bring no glory or security with it; but which must involve the safety of the public liberties in its progress, and close with the loss of our name as an independent nation.