

permitted to wave, now struggling for existence, beneath his iron grasp.

Permit the Legislature of this Commonwealth, whose citizens have been ever zealous, in the cause of freedom, and who contributed their utmost efforts, for the adoption of that constitution, under which, in former times, we enjoyed so much prosperity, most respectfully, but earnestly, to entreat and conjure, the constituted authorities of the nation, by the regard due to our liberties, to our union, to our civil compact, already infringed—to pause before it be too late. Let the sober, considerate, and honorable Representatives of our sister States, in which different councils prevail, ask themselves,

Were not the territories of the United States sufficiently extensive, before the annexation of Louisiana, the projected reduction of Canada, and seizure of West Florida?

Had we not millions upon millions of acres of uncultivated wilderness, scarcely explored, by civilized man?

Could these acquisitions be held, as conquered provinces, without powerful standing armies? and would they not, like other infant colonies, serve as perpetual drains, of the blood and treasure of these United States? Or is it seriously intended, to adopt the dangerous project of forming them into new States, and admitting them into the Union, without the express consent of every member of the original confederacy? Would not such a measure have a direct tendency to destroy the obligations of that compact, by which alone our union is maintained?

Already have we witnessed the formation and admission of one State, beyond the territorial limits of the United States, and this too, in opposition to the

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