

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NEW-ENGLAND, NEW-YORK, NEW-JERSEY, AND DELAWARE.

HOWEVER much to be regretted by every friend to commerce, and civil liberty, must be the reelection of Mr. Madison, still it is a most *cheering* and *consolatory* reflection, that the struggle has manifested an energy, an intelligence, a spirit of concord and union, a magnanimous disposition to sacrifice party feelings, and personal considerations, in the citizens of the commercial states, which is unexampled in the history of this country. It was indeed to be feared, that no pressure, however great, no sufferings, however severe, would detach men from those chains of party with which they had been so long bound. But we are most happily undeceived; a sense of common danger, a conviction of common interest, and of the absolute necessity of union for relief from oppression, snapped asunder the bonds of faction. Mutual condescension, mutual consultation soon obliterated the memory of past distinctions, (which after all were merely nominal) and we now find, with the exception of the dependents upon government, and those under their influence, but one great and united people, from Maine to Delaware.

It *ought* indeed to be so; for, from Maine to Delaware we have one common interest, and that is, the preservation of commerce, which from Delaware southwards, they are determined to *destroy*. Still men do not always *perceive* their interest. But in this case, they could not shut their eyes; it was like "Heaven's own lightning," it flashed conviction upon those who were stone blind.

Five years successive commercial restriction; was found ineffectual; it made us grow leaner to be sure, but we were strong and able to survive it. Our persecutors had not patience to endure our lingering death; they therefore got up the guillotine of a maritime war, to cut off our heads at a stroke.

This last act of desperation, has accomplished our wishes; it has opened the eyes of the people, and notwithstanding the reelection of Mr. Madison, not *in vain*. If we are as firm and resolute in the pursuit of our purposes, as moderate and conciliatory as we have hitherto been; if we continue to sacrifice to the attainment of peace and prosperity, our party passions, we are certain of success. Let our political enemies triumph in their partial victory; let them attempt to undervalue our courage, our opinions, and our importance; we shall shew them in the next congress, that no government can wage an unnecessary war against the sentiments and interests of the people.