

be parts of the same empire, inheritors and preservers of true freedom.

But, to give a more favourable turn to this proposal, if they should *at first* accede to the terms; if they should accept Independence from our Commissioners, and feel with gratitude that the removal of our troops from their provinces, and our fleets from their coasts, had enabled them to act for themselves, to improve their country, to negotiate with credit, to trade freely, and to apply the profits of their industry and of their trade to their own advantage; and withall, that the British people, instead of enemies, were become the faithful guarantees of their independence and freedom.

With what spirit might we turn our arms against the house of Bourbon in the West Indies, in America, and at home! We might then give scope to the gallantry of our troops, by sending them to defend countries which are our own, which wish to continue under our government, and which only want the countenance of this country to drive the piratical and faithless D'Estaing with disgrace from their ports.

Objects for their conquest would open to them, assisted by America, and pushed forward by a spirited determination of giving circulation to the American paper, by putting them in possession of the Spanish main, or of settlements which would be the lasting fund of their credit, the scene would be totally changed; *the necessity of fighting*, the worst calamity which can befall a free and high-spirited people, would be removed; and we might again be the arbiters of a general peace.

This would be the result of an union, or of a peace with America. To mark the consequences which