

inveterate enemy—such a declaration can hardly be supposed to have been very favourably received. There were not, however, wanting men to vindicate this measure; while the majority of the American party only endeavoured to palliate it. They attributed it to that system of oppression, which Administration, they said, had uniformly pursued; to the contempt with which every petition had been received, and every remonstrance rejected; and looked forward to the time, when under the administration of men in whom they could confide, and upon the adoption of measures they might deem equitable, the Americans would revoke this declaration. In the mean time, every packet, that arrived from America, brought fresh proofs of her fixed purpose to emancipate herself from the dominion of this country. The seeds of rebellion, scattered with a profuse hand, were spreading widely. The soil was friendly, and the climate genial.

Posterity will hardly credit the tale, that at a time, when we were at peace with all the world, except America, there could be found a man, who, urging so disgraceful a motive as the defeat of our arms, could propose to the people of this country to acknowledge American independence.