

“ sincerity and confidence nourished hope and the activity neces-
 “ sary to the planter : but by what undermining and imperceptible
 “ fatality have we seen a house worth twenty thousand livres sold
 “ for six thousand, and habitations all on a sudden lose one half
 “ and two-thirds of their intrinsic value ? Fortunes waste away,
 “ and specie is more scarce than ever ; confidence is lost, and the
 “ discouragement becomes general ; the plaintive cries of distress
 “ are heard on every side, the precious name of subject of France
 “ is seen to be eclipsed, and the fatal decree concerning the com-
 “ merce of Louisiana gives the last fatal stroke to the colony,
 “ that must totally annihilate it. The Spanish standard is set up
 “ at Balise and at the Illinois, and other places : no titles, no pa-
 “ tents were presented to the superior council : time flies apace,
 “ the delays fixed for the liberty of emigration will soon expire,
 “ force will tyrannise, we must live in slavery and loaded with
 “ chains, or precipitately make establishments delivered down
 “ from the grandfather to the grandson. All the inhabitants and
 “ merchants call upon you, their sovereign lord the king, Lewis
 “ the well-beloved ; their treasures and their blood are offered,
 “ they are resolved to live and die French.

“ Let us proceed to resume the points of the charge, grievances
 “ and imputations. Mr. Ulloa has caused counsellors, named by
 “ himself, to take cognizance of facts, which should by right be
 “ determined by the superior council, relative to the subjects of
 “ France alone : the sentences have been signified and put in exe-
 “ cution against messieurs Cadis and Leblanc ; Mr. Ulloa has sup-
 “ ported the negroes, dissatisfied with their masters ; the commissary
 “ of his catholic majesty has presented to the superior council
 “ none of his titles, powers, and provisions ; has not exhibited a
 “ copy of the act of cession, in order to have it registered ; has,
 “ without the said indispensable formalities, set up the Spanish
 “ standard at Balise, at the Illinois, and other places ; has, with-
 “ out legal authority, punished and oppressed subjects of France ;
 “ has