

regret the misfortune of so many brave men; but the misfortune would be much more than counterbalanced, could the nation by this means be brought to reflect seriously on the nature of that object for which they are contending. I would not, from hence, wish to be understood, as if I meant to insinuate, that, were the object worth the charge of the contest, Britain has it not still in her power to compel the Colonists to accept of whatever terms she may think fit to dictate. But I wish not to see the Colonists reduced to that state of subjection. It is not the interest of Britain that they should be so. Happy would it be for all parties, if they could allow their animosities to subside, and be guided by those principles only which tend to promote their own interest and true glory. Then would they all, instead of wasting their best blood and treasure in pursuit of the phantom *conquest*, which seems ever near, but continually eludes the grasp, put up their swords in peace, and emulously strive which shall excel in healing most quickly those deep wounds that each has received from the blind folly and ungovernable phrenzy of the other.

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