

that we want may be drawn. We have *no internal taxes*. For that reason we can better bear, and will with the utmost cheerfulness pay, whatever the exigencies of the government may require. While England, while all Europe, is gasping beneath the weight of enormous burdens, it is our felicity alone to be exempt from direct taxation.

I have elsewhere said, that the first six months of the war, if terrible at all, would be most terrible to us. The policy of England is to make war, and then to declare it. Our merchants would most sensibly feel an embargo in British ports, and the sensation would momentarily tingle through every nerve of the state. Our commerce, in a war with a naval power so formidable, although not wholly stopped, would be materially interrupted. But, besides embargoing our ships in her ports, and interrupting our commerce on the ocean, could England essentially affect us?

The ravages of the revolutionary war, are the last she will commit in the *interior* of our country. Fifty thousand of her veteran troops landed on our shores, would, barring a precipitate retreat, immediately *rest from their labours*. She has nothing to hope from the interior. She would not obtrude a soldier on our soil, except in some sequestered part of our shore, where paucity of inhabitants might give impunity to plunder.

But, in one or two of our sea-ports, she might give us some trouble, although she could not land.

The first duty of a state, to which, however, Con-