

seamen, France has no remaining resource but in the establishment of a new code of maritime law, which may, by its operation, debilitate that strength, against which all her open and direct hostility has been found unavailing. She has, therefore, raised a new standard, to which all nations are invited to repair, who estimate a dishonest and fraudulent gain above the maintenance of national honour, or the defence of the common independence of Europe. Under this banner, she hopes to unite some doubtful friends of England, and some not doubtful enemies. But she counts with just and certain confidence, on the support of all our domestic traitors. To cripple the exertions of the British Navy, must, indeed, be an object dear to the hearts of all those who, with unblushing falsehood, vilify our just cause, depreciate our resources, insult our national character, and calumniate the heroic valour of our fleets and armies; to all the scorners of our Religion, all the libellers of our King, and all the conspirators against our Constitution.

The authority of such men has, it is true, no weight—not even with their accomplices—but their falsehoods sometimes deceive the ignorant, and their fallacies frequently embarrass the well-disposed.

This country has, for ages, observed an uniform and well-digested system of maritime law