

friendship of America being an infinite recompence in exchange of an irksome dominion, onerous to them, and barren to us (i)." Treaties are dictated by convenience, and violated as interest requires. Friendship among nations is a solecism in politics. We must have some better security for the friendship of America, than an unhallowed form of words. That security must be a dependence upon this country; and in the pursuit of this object, disadvantages must not dishearten us. Let difficulties multiply, and one defeat succeed another, still we must continue firm and constant to our purpose, and not waver, as fortune proves fickle. We will emulate the conduct of that illustrious people, among whose conquests that of our ancestors was not reckoned the least difficult. They seemed to acquire activity from every defeat, and to gain, like *Anteus*, fresh force from every fall. They were not dejected with every reverse of fortune; but preserved a greatness of soul in the most desperate situations. When *Pyrrhus*, after having obtained many successes over the Romans, offered to treat with them upon advantageous terms; they replied, in the true spirit of magnanimity, *Let Pyrrhus depart from Italy*. When Hannibal was laying waste the Roman territory, they sent

(i) Mr. David Hartley's Letters, p. 41.