

What a hue and cry at the commencement of hostilities, against the rashness and severity of the parent country ! What palliatives were advanced in behalf of American disobedience ! though it was obvious to all, that long before they had, by committees of associations, similar to those lately set on foot in Yorkshire †, been collecting and laying

men, that few could possibly escape being taken—nay were but this frantic plan of opposition adopted, all who have any concerns in that quarter of the globe must inevitably be undone.—Next, the Islands themselves would fall, as it is generally allowed they cannot subsist any longer than whilst they can have free access to the ports of America.

† A word or two with the *peaceable com—tee of the association for the county of York*, with a slight observation on the merits of that com—tee at their meeting held on the 3d and 4th of January 1781, and the instrument of instructions to their deputies. I had no sooner set myself to read the address of these genuine sons of faction, than I discovered, as I had before conjectured, the old beaten tract and threadbare cant of bribery,——corrupt majority,——slavery,——vassalage,——taxation,——placets,——pensions,——finecures,——economy,——the influence of the crown ought to be lopt, topt, cropt, and totally diminished,——triennial parliaments,——war,——peace,——America,——ruin,——disgrace,——liberty of the press,——Paul Jones no pirate,——Dutch War,——salvation of Great Britain,——powder diabolically