

cannot with Safety admit of Delay, as we may be led into many and great Inconveniencies thereby, and, from the active and vigorous Conduct of *France*, be utterly unable to repair the Loss of our Trade and Settlements, which in the End may prove destructive to us, by cutting off all the Channels of our Supply, and consequently render us unable to support the Weight of heavy Taxes, or to make any considerable Struggle against the ambitious Views of *France*, in making herself the Umpire of *Europe*.

And altho' we have a Fleet greatly superior to *France*, it is
S considered,