

mitted to, we had many "*rods in pickle*," for which she must prepare her Imperial back.

"Although there are many *just and weighty* causes of complaint against Great-Britain (says Mr. Madison, in his instructions for an armistice, in his hollow instructions to make a *shew* of an armistice), you will perceive that the orders in council, illegal blockades, and impressments are of the *highest importance*."

Gracious Heaven !! What hopes can that nation ever have of arriving at an end of its labours !! The toils of *Hercules*, and the disasters of *Job*, have no comparison with them.—I had thought that the tenderness of our government for Great-Britain had induced them and their editors, the National Intelligencer, Aurora, and Chronicle, to state to us all the various causes of dissatisfaction against her.—I had thought that after atoning for the attack on the Chesapeake, relinquishing all illegal blockades—rescinding the orders in council, and renouncing impressments, there would remain *no* cause of dissatisfaction against Great-Britain; but she is now told, that these are only the *higher* causes of complaint, and that after she has submitted to all the humiliations demanded of her, our attorney-general will then file a bill, and present a specification of the other "*just and weighty causes of complaint*." I can only say, that I never yet heard the bitterest enemy of England mention any other causes, than those enumerated by Mr. Madison.—What possible encouragement then could the British cabinet have, to agree to our proposals, when they could see no termination to complaints, and pretexts, and causes, for avoiding an ultimate arrangement, and when the *exclusion* of British trade, (the only *real object* of France in obliging us to enter into this war) was to be continued until peace should be finally concluded?

The government of Great-Britain lost no time after the war was known, in making to our cabinet proposals for an armistice. These proposals were like all propositions between equal states, perfectly reciprocal. They require of us to *suspend hostilities only*, in consideration of suspending hostilities on their part. They are silent as to impressments—and would any person inquire why? It may be answered, that impressments never had been presented to Great-Britain *as in themselves the cause of war*—They had existed prior to Jay's treaty, and that treaty was made without demanding their discontinuance—they continued during the whole of Mr. King's residence in Europe, as well as during Mr. Monroe's, and the latter also made a treaty in which they were left as the subjects of future arrangement.—How then could Great-Britain presume that this would be on our part a *sine qua non* of an armistice?—Especially as the discussion on that topic with Monroe and Pinkney had shewn that many months would be required to arrange it?

The universal sentiment in England and America was, that if the orders in council and blockades should be withdrawn, the cause of war would cease—at least it was supposed that *hostilities* might cease, and the other subjects be matter of negotiation for a definitive peace.