

of widows and orphans, succeed to the jocund notes of peace and joy ! And shall *that* Congress in whom our country reposes its confidence, from whom it implores protection and relief, be *unmoved* by the complicated miseries of the people ? Shall they calmly vote the continuance of that war *expedient*, from which such complicated evils have proceeded ? But perhaps the *same* arguments I have heard from the other side of the House, at the conclusion of every indecisive campaign, may now be repeated. We may *again* be told, that nothing but *perseverance* is required to gain the object of our wishes ; that *another* campaign will secure our independence, as Great Britain, disunited, depopulated, and on the verge of rebellion and public bankruptcy, must *inevitably* sink under her own burdens, and the weight of her combined and powerful enemies.

As a *sincere* friend to *America*, I hope this prophecy will prove as false *now* as on former occasions ; because it is on Britain *alone* we must *ultimately* depend for the preservation of our religion, our liberties, and our country. Is it possible to conceive us so *grossly* ignorant to be imposed upon by the specious promises of France ? Can we believe our independence will *ever* be established by an alliance with our inveterate *enemies* ? Examine their conduct toward us from the beginning of the war to the present moment, and you will see the strongest reason to be convinced, if it is yet a matter