

render impossible to be wholly prevented; they are the consequences of all wars, not alone of the present. To destroy the trade of the enemy, it is necessary to employ privateers, which cannot always be kept under those strict rules to which a more regular force is subject; these maritime hussars may sometimes exceed their commissions, and be guilty of disorders, the authors of which cannot always be punished, because the nature of the fact renders the discovery of them difficult; but can the crimes of these be imputed to ministers, whose ears are always open to complaints, and who labour as much as possible to redress them? The privateers of England are already made subject to every restraint which naval policy hath as yet invented, to force them to conform to their duty; if, however, these are found insufficient, and if any more successful means can be discovered to prevent every unjust depredation, by which the evils of war may be diminished, confident I am that Great Britain will be the first to adopt them; let them be consistent only with the use of her naval power, and conformable to justice, the British legislature will enact such into a law, and the British ministry will attend most steadily to the execution of them.

But, after all, the wisest regulations on occasions like this, cannot be expected to answer fully the end proposed; the system of humanity is nowhere perfect, but in the intercourse carried on between nations its weakness is most apparent; the softer ties of natural affection among these have little effect, and no coer-