

course of a long life, the person who now has the honour to address you, Sir, has often endured the mortification of that feeling*; but now that his zeal has become nearly extinct, he conceives it to be his duty at this crisis, to place upon paper this imperfect epitome of a much more extended collection of facts and reasoning; and which he yet flatters himself he shall be able to complete, in a manner to be of some use to the society of which it has pleased Providence to constitute him a member.

57. To the government of the United States I have no other apology to offer than the view I have already taken of its inimical conduct towards Great Britain and her colonies. After pilfering our fisheries, I now see it aiming, as I verily believe, at the acquisition of our colonial timber trade†, the loss or even diminution of which will be most ruinous or injurious to the colonies, and, eventually, a serious injury to Great Britain herself. Yes, Sir, with the proud consciousness of ranking among the most loyal of his Majesty's subjects, with an apprehension prompted by that feeling, I see the federal eagle, like a bird of prey, watching the colonies situated near her own nest; and, in anticipation, exulting in the acts of the British rulers: acts, which she herself, from *policy*, not less than from *avarice*, and they from *misinformation*, have promoted.

58. To you, Sir, alone, I am of opinion, I ought to offer an excuse for the liberty I have taken of making use of your name without license; but when, after a debate with myself, I came to consider that there was *nothing personal to you* in

* Notes (*) and (†) to paragraph 46.

† To prove an act of state policy, or the secret confederacy of other nations, in as complete a manner as we are expected to do in a suit in a court of law, is out of the power of any *private* man; but whoever takes the trouble to consider the *interest* which the United States have in imposing duties on British colonial timber, perhaps, also, for we are mainly in the dark on this subject, *in taking duties off from their own* (see paragraph 6.), how they have acted on some occasions (paragraph 14, note (*) to paragraph 36.), and the manner in which they have since their independence, in very numerous instances, been embroiled with other nations (see paragraphs 35 and 37), it will, I think, be conceded, that the suspicion is so strong, that it amounts to something bordering on proof. It certainly is not a measure *hostile* to their interests, or we should have seen the arguments against it in their files of newspapers, mixed up with the disgusting trash of their daily abuse of every British transaction.