

It is already very clearly proved, that the Americans in general have been favourable to our cause. Events remain to be mentioned that will place this truth in the strongest light. No two measures could be more odious to the people of America than the Declaration of Independence, and the Treaty with France. At the beginning of this contest, the people in general were very far from having independence in view. There were, however, a particular set of men who indulged this hope; and by every art, which the designing could practise over the weak, laboured to bring about their purpose. But so sensible were the Congress of the general aversion that prevailed from a separation with this country, that even at the time that they declared independence, they asserted, that it was not with a view to a total separation of the two countries, but from necessity; [because, unless they declared independence, *the Powers of Europe would not trade with them*, and they were in great distress for want of many foreign necessaries. To carry the Declaration was found a most arduous task. Their debates lasted near a fortnight; and when the question was put, six Colonies divided against six; the Delegates for Pennsylvania being also divided, the question remained undecided. One of the Members of that Colony, however, changed his opinion; and upon the question, the next day, it was carried