

laws of moral rectitude, they repelled invasion; they were invincible. They became corrupt; they violated the laws of morality and piety; their glory departed. The records of history, or their broken pillars and mouldering ruins, are the only proofs of their existence. "The crimes scarcely to be credited, of which the Roman empire was the theatre, was one of the principal causes of their fall; the disorderly lives they led, and the discrepancy of public opinions, could alone have permitted such horrible excesses. A disgusting depravity, which alike infringed upon nature and morality, completed the degradation of a people, once so great, and their debasement prepared an easy triumph for the northern people." Such will be the fate of the present powerful nations of the globe, who sacrifice their moral principles, on the altars of ambition and conquest. Such will be the fate of this nation, if it persevere in this useless, pernicious warfare. This war, being offensive and unnecessary, unavoidably involves the abandonment of religious principle and moral rectitude; this war, therefore, draws down all the evils, which fall on a wicked, unprincipled race of men; this war converts a fair community, governed by the laws of truth and right, into an horde of assassins, combined for purposes of havoc and murder, rushing forth to invade their peaceful neighbors. The Chief Magistrate, declaring this war, is no longer the Father of his country, the guardian of its blessings, the patron of its useful enterprises, he has forsaken the duties of his high office, and the glory of his office has forsaken him. Those mild strains of public commendation, the rich reward of fidelity, more delicious to the heart, than "the music of the harp on the gale of Spring," are changed to the awful tones of reproof, or the harsh invectives of bitter reproaches. He is the angel of wrath, dashing in the dust the richest comforts of the people, extinguishing the spirit of exertion, filling the land with desolation and misery.

Has the old serpent, who tempted our first parents calmly surveyed the ruins of the fall, the solitude of the garden, the diseases, the woes of men, their death in this world, their punishment in the world to come? Not unlike this is the prospect of a first Magistrate, carrying on a wicked war. He sees myriads sinking in poverty and distress; he sees myriads bleeding and dying; he hears the widow's shriek, the orphan's cry. All the laws of industry, the fruit of agriculture, all the fruits of industry, blasted hope, and thou torn with anguish of public enterprise, and covered the land up to the throne of Woe. Would not most of those, who yet remain, have yielded to this war, when assailed by the manly spirit of their fiery Chief, established by law and murder by law.— They lent their power to break down the barriers between right and wrong. Instead of shining as stars, they are baleful meteors portending the ruin of the country. Jeroboam made the people of Israel to sin; so the authors of this war are making the people to sin. No