

pointed by their respective countries. By this means the strength of Great Britain would become the strength of America, and the strength of America would be the strength of Great Britain. That dread and terror which constantly hangs over my mind, that America is to ruin us by drawing away our people, getting possession of the West-Indies, Newfoundland, and Quebec, and becoming more powerful than us at sea, would be in a great measure, if not entirely, removed. But even if matters were brought to that point, where such regulations could be made, there must still remain great difficulty in the arrangement of particulars.

Nothing is attended with greater nicety than new regulations of Government, and no measure ought to be taken with greater diffidence. Even where similar circumstances give authority for similar institutions, there are so many small variations imperceptible to human penetration, that the effect of them can hardly be foretold. When the situation is entirely new, and neither the knowledge of past events, nor a variety of actual experience, can furnish out instances of the same nature, it must encrease the difficulty to such a degree, as to render the boldest politician timorous. This last is so much the situation of the present subject, that it is with the utmost diffidence