

that, amidst all the calamities which have distracted and overwhelmed Europe, England has continued to enjoy within herself the tranquillity of the most peaceable times. Her shores have never been insulted, nor her cities plundered, nor has she heard a cannon roar, but as a mark of rejoicing; or beheld an hostile banner waving on her plains, but as a token of victory. Let us also thank God for the glorious part she has filled during such a destructive war. That she preserved her exalted attitude with unshaken firmness, amidst the wreck of nations, and the terrible efforts of her implacable foe. That impregnable herself, she proved capable of the most valourous achievements, and is recognized by the just and wise of every nation, the shield of afflicted humanity, and the successful hope of a suffering world.

It is impossible to think of these victories, without anticipating the great changes which they will effect, and drawing in our imagination a picture of the probable advantages which they will produce. Alas, my friends, victory itself is associated with many painful images; and it is only valuable as it averts greater evils, and leads to security and peace; that peace which is now diffusing its general beams over Europe, has already given liberty to the thousands of prisoners torn from those they love, by this terrible war. With what a lively delight will they return to their pleasing abodes, which renew the recollection of former times, and again introduce them to all the blessings of social and domestic endearment.

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