

assistance of my advice on the subject. In a few words I will tell you what I would do:—Place England and France upon the same footing, by repealing the non-importation act, rescinding the proclamation, and repealing the embargo. Then ask for, and insist upon adequate reparation for the affair of the Chesapeake. Make a treaty with Great Britain, if as good terms could be obtained as those in either of the treaties which have been refused.—Agree to resist the execution of the Berlin decree, and if she afterwards persisted in her orders in council, declare war against her. Such would be my course. War would be the last resort; and I believe, in my conscience, we should never be driven to it, if the course were pursued with a sincere disposition to preserve peace.

Permit me, Sir, to notice one remark of the honorable gentleman from Virginia, which had escaped me, and I am done. The gentleman told us, that the removal of the embargo was designed as a concession to our eastern brethren. I rejoiced to hear this sentiment of forbearance. Such sentiments give hopes that the union may still be preserved. We have been led to the brink of a tremendous precipice—another false step, and we shall be lost in the abyss. Our safety is in treading back our steps. We have lost our way. Some ignis fatuus has beguiled us. There is a path of safety and honor—the path the nation once trod. Let us endeavor to regain it, and invoke the spirit of Washington to lead us once more into it!

to produce  
nies. Do  
ecuted, in  
can make  
will give  
y place to  
guish her  
he conse-  
would be  
give birth.  
f a whole  
econd na-  
re?—No,  
been ac-  
ut which,  
low—and  
the honor  
ects you  
them to  
of your  
ve in the

ault with  
urse we  
no hesi-  
humble