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B R I T I S H H O U S E O F L O R D S,
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O P E N I N G O F T H E S E S S I O N,
20th N O V E M B E R, 1777,
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F O R
A D D R E S S I N G T H E T H R O N E.

Taken Verbatim as his Lordship spoke it.

PRINTED A. D. 1778.

 H O U S E O F L O R D S,

N O V E M B E R 20th, 1777.

LORD PERCY moved an Address to his Majesty, congratulating him on the Birth of a Princess, &c.—and echoing back to the Throne the Sentiments which his Majesty was graciously pleased to express in his Speech, steadily to pursue Measures of Hostility against America, in Order “to recover the Affection and restore the Confidence of the Colonies,”—and in “*hopes of some important Success.*” His Lordship said little;—and Lord Chesterfield, who seconded the Motion, said less.—Lord Coventry spoke a short time: And then

LORD CHATHAM.

I Rise, my Lords, to declare my sentiments on this most solemn and serious subject.—It has imposed a load upon my mind which

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I fear

I fear nothing can remove, but which impels me to endeavour it's alleviation by a free and unreserved communication of my sentiments.

In the first part of the Address, I have the honor of heartily concurring with the noble Earl who moved it. No man feels sincerer joy than I do, none can offer more genuine congratulation, on every accession of strength to the Protestant Succession. I therefore most entirely join in every congratulation on the birth of another Princess, and the happy recovery of her Majesty.—But I must stop here, my courtly complaisance will carry me no farther—I will not join in congratulations on Misfortune and Disgrace.—I cannot concur in a blind and servile Address, which approves and endeavours to sanctify the Monstrous Measures that have heaped Disgrace and Misfortune on us—that have brought Ruin to our Doors ;—my Lords, Ruin is brought to our Doors.—This, my Lords, is a perilous and tremendous moment !—It is not a time for Adulation.—The smoothness of Flattery cannot now avail,—cannot save us in this rugged and awful Crisis.—It is now necessary to instruct the Throne in the language of Truth—We must dispel the
Delusion

Delusion and the Darknefs which envelope it, and display in its full danger and true colours, the Ruin that is brought to our Doors.—This, my Lords, is our duty: it is the proper function of this Noble Assembly, fitting as we do upon our Honours in this House, the Hereditary Council of the Crown:—And who is the Minister—Where is the Minister—that has dared to suggest to the Throne the contrary unconstitutional language this day delivered from it? The accustomed constitutional language from the Throne has been application to parliament for advice, and a reliance on its constitutional advice and assistance.—As it is the right of parliament to give, so it is the duty of the crown to ask it.—But on this day, and in this extreme momentous exigency, no reliance is reposed on our constitutional counfels! No advice is asked from the sober and enlightened care of Parliament! But the crown from itself and by itself declares an unalterable determination to pursue Measures—and what Measures, my Lords? the Measures that have produced the imminent perils that threaten us, the Measures that have brought Ruin to our Doors—Can the Ministers of the day now presume to expect a continuance of Support in this ruinous Infatuation?

fatuation?—Can Parliament be so dead to its dignity and its duty as to be thus deluded into the loss of the one, and the violation of the other? To give an unlimited Credit and Support for the “steady” perseverance in Measures,—*That* is the word, and the conduct, not proposed for our parliamentary advice, but dictated and forced upon us,---in Measures, I say, my Lords, which have reduced this late-flourishing Empire to Ruin and Contempt.—“But yesterday,—“and England might have stood against the “world,—Now, none so poor—to do her reverence.”—I use the words of a Poet; but though it be poetry it is no fiction.—It is a shameful truth, that not alone the power and strength of this country are wasting away and expiring, but her well-earned Glories, her true Honour, and substantial Dignity are sacrificed.—France, my Lords, has insulted you;—she has encouraged and sustained America:—and whether America be wrong or right, the dignity of this country ought to spurn at the officious insult of French interference.—The Ministers and Embassadors of those who are called Rebels and Enemies, are in Paris!—In Paris, they transact the reciprocal interests of America and France! Can there be a more humiliating Disgrace?

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Do they dare to resent it? Do they presume even to limit a vindication of their honour and the dignity of the state, by requiring the dismissal of these haughty Plenipotentiaries? Such is the degradation to which they have reduced the Glories of England! the people whom they affected to call contemptible Rebels, but whose growing power has at last obtained the name of Enemies,—the people with whom they have engaged this country in war, and against whom they now command our implicit support in every measure of desperate Hostility;—This people, despised as Rebels, or acknowledged as Enemies, are abetted against you, supplied with every military store, their interests consulted, and their Embassadors entertained, by your inveterate Foe of France!—And our Ministers dare not interpose with dignity or effect.—Is this the Honour of a great Kingdom? Is this the indignant Spirit of England, who but “*Yesterday*” gave laws to the House of Bourbon?—My Lords, the dignity of Nations demands a decisive conduct in a situation like this.—Even when the greatest Prince that perhaps this country ever saw, filled our Throne, the requisition of a Spanish General, on a similar subject, was attended to and complied with: for, on the
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spirited Remonstrance of the Duke of Alva, Elizabeth found herself obliged to deny the Flemish Exiles all countenance, support, or even entrance into her dominions; and the Count Le Marque, with his few desperate followers, was expelled.—Happening to arrive at the Brillie, and finding it weak in defence, they made themselves masters of the place:—And this was the foundation of the United Provinces.—

My Lords, this ruinous and ignominious situation, where we cannot act with success, nor suffer with honour, calls upon me to remonstrate in the strongest and loudest language of Truth, to rescue the Ear of Majesty from the delusions which surround it.—The desperate state of our Arms abroad is in part known.—No Man thinks more highly of them than I do;—I love and honour the English troops:—I know their Virtues and their Valour:—I know they can atchieve any thing except Impossibilities;—And I know that the Conquest of English America is an *Impossibility*. You cannot,—I venture to say it, YOU CANNOT conquer America.—Your Armies last War effected every thing that could be effected;—and what was it? It cost your numerous army, under the
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the command of a most able General *, now a noble Lord in this house, a long and laborious campaign to expel 5,000 Frenchmen from French America:—My Lords, *you cannot conquer America*:—What is your present situation there? We do not know the worst; but we know, that in three campaigns we have done nothing, and suffered much. Besides the sufferings, perhaps the total loss, of the Northern Force: The best appointed Army that ever took the field, commanded by Sir William Howe, has retired from the American lines:—He was obliged to relinquish his attempt, and with great delay and danger to adopt a new and distinct plan of operations. We shall soon know, and in any event have reason to lament, what may have happened since.—As to conquest, therefore, my Lords, I repeat, it is *impossible*:—You may swell every expence and every effort still more extravagantly;—Pile and accumulate every assistance you can buy or borrow; traffic and barter with every little pitiful German Prince that sells his subjects to the shambles of a foreign Prince;—your efforts are for ever vain and impotent:—doubly so from this mercenary aid on which you rely; for it irritates to an incurable resentment the minds of your ene-

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mies:

Sir Jeffrey (now Lord) Amherst.

raies:—To over-run them with the mercenary sons of rapine and plunder,—devoting them and their possessions to the rapacity of hireling Cruelty!—If I were an American, as I am an Englishman, while a foreign troop was landed in my Country, I never would lay down my Arms——Never——Never——Never—.

Your own Army is infected with the contagion of these illiberal Allies.—The spirit of plunder and of rapine is gone forth among them.—I know it.—And, notwithstanding what the noble Earl who moved the Address has given as his opinion of our American Army, I know from authentic information, and the *most experienced Officers*, that our discipline is deeply wounded.—Whilst this is notoriously our sinking situation, America grows and flourishes:—Whilst our strength and discipline is lowered, their's rises and improves.

But, my Lords, who is the Man, that in addition to these disgraces and mischiefs of our Army, has dared to authorise and associate to our Arms the Tomahawk and Scalping Knife of the Savage?—To call into civilized alliance the wild and inhuman Savage

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vage of the Woods ! To delegate to the merciless Indian the defence of disputed Rights---and to wage the horrors of his barbarous War against our Brethren ! My Lords, these enormities cry aloud for redress and punishment ; unless thoroughly done away, it will be a stain on the national character ;--- It is a violation of the constitution : I believe it is against law.----It is not the least of our national misfortunes that the strength and character of our army are thus impaired.---Infected with the mercenary spirit of robbery and rapine,---familiarized to the horrid scenes of savage cruelty, it can no longer boast of the noble and generous principles which dignify a soldier ; no longer sympathize with the dignity of “ the Royal Banner,”---nor feel “ the pride, pomp, circumstance of glorious war,” “ that make ambition virtue.”----What makes ambition---virtue ? The sense of honour. But, is the sense of honour consistent with a spirit of plunder ? or the practice of murder ? Can it flow from mercenary motives ? Or can it prompt to cruel deeds ?----

The independent views of America have been stated and asserted as the foundation of this Address.----My Lords, no man wishes

more for the due dependence of America on this Country than I do. To preserve it, and not to confirm that state of independence into which our measures hitherto have driven them, is the object which we ought to unite in attaining.-----The Americans, contending for their rights against arbitrary exactions, I love and admire; it is the struggle of free and virtuous patriots :---But contending for independency and total disconnexion from England, as an Englishman, I cannot wish them success.---For, on a due constitutional dependency, including the ancient supremacy of this country in regulating their commerce and navigation, depends the mutual happiness and prosperity both of England and America.---She derived assistance and protection from Us; and We reaped from Her the most important advantages.---She was indeed the fountain of our wealth, the nerve of our strength, the nursery and basis of our naval power.-----It is our duty, my Lords, if we wish to save our country, most anxiously to endeavour the recovery of these most beneficial subjects---And in this perilous crisis, perhaps the present moment may be the only one in which we can hope for success: for in their negotiations with France, they have, or think they have, reason to

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complain.---Though it be notorious that they have received from that power most important supplies and assistance of every kind, yet it is certain they expected it in a more immediate and decisive degree. America is in ill humour with France on some points that have not entirely answered her expectations :---Let us wisely take advantage of every possible moment of reconciliation. Besides, the natural disposition of America still leans towards England ;---to the old habits of connexion and mutual interest that united both countries.---This *was* the established sentiment of all the continent ; and still, my Lords, in the great and principal part, the sound part of America, this wise and affectionate disposition prevails : And there is a very considerable part of America,---yet sound ;---the middle and the southern provinces :---Some parts may be factious and blind to their true interests ;---but if we express a wise and a benevolent disposition to communicate with them those immutable rights of nature and constitutional liberties to which they are equally entitled with ourselves,---by a conduct so just and humane we shall confirm the favourable, and conciliate the adverse.---I say, my Lords, the rights and liberties to which they are equally entitled

titled with ourselves, but no more.---I would participate to them every enjoyment and freedom which the colonizing subjects of a free state can possess, or wish to possess: and I do not see why they should not enjoy every fundamental right in their property, and every original substantial liberty which Devonshire or Surry, or the county I live in, or any county in England, can claim:---reserving always as the sacred right of the Mother Country, the due constitutional dependency of her Colonies.—The inherent supremacy of the state in regulating and protecting the navigation and commerce of all her subjects, is necessary for the mutual benefit and preservation of every part, to constitute and preserve the prosperous arrangement of the whole empire.—The sound parts of America, of which I have spoken, must be sensible of these great truths, and of their real interests. America is not in that state of desperate and contemptible rebellion which this country has been deluded to believe.—It is not a wild and lawless banditti, who, having nothing to lose, might hope to snatch something from public convulsions.—Many of their leaders and great men have a great stake in this great contest;—The Gentleman who commands their
armies,

armies, I am told, has an estate of 4, or 5000*l.* a year;—and, when I consider these things, I cannot but lament the inconsiderate violence of our penal acts, our declarations of treason and rebellion, with all the fatal effects of attainder and confiscation.

As to the disposition of foreign powers, which is asserted to be pacific and friendly, let us judge, my Lords, rather by their actions and the nature of things, than by interested assertions.—The uniform assistance supplied to America by France suggests a different conclusion.—The most important interests of France in aggrandizing and enriching herself with what she most wants, supplies of every naval store from America, must inspire her with different sentiments :---The extraordinary preparations of the House of Bourbon by land, and by sea from Dunkirk to the Straits, equally ready and willing to overwhelm these defenceless islands, should rouse us to a sense of their real disposition, and our own danger.—Not 5000 troops in England! Hardly 3000 in Ireland!—what can we oppose to the combined force of our enemies?—Scarcely 20 ships of the line, fully or sufficiently manned, that any Admiral's reputation would permit him to take the
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command of:—the river of Lisbon in possession of our enemies!—the seas swept by American privateers—our own channel torn to pieces by them!—In this complicated crisis of danger—weakness at home and calamity abroad,—terrified and insulted by the neighbouring powers,—unable to act in America, or acting only to be destroyed;—---Where is the man *with the Forehead* to promise or to hope success in such a situation, or from perseverance in the measures that have driven us to it?—Who has *the Forehead* to do so? Where is that man? I should be glad to see his face.

You cannot *conciliate* America by your present measures:—You cannot *subdue* her by your present, or by any measures---What then *can* you do? You cannot conquer,—you cannot gain,—But you can *Address*: You can lull the fears and anxieties of the moment into an ignorance of the danger that should produce them:----But, my Lords, the time demands the language of Truth.—We must not now “apply the flattering unction” of servile compliance or blind complaisance.-----In a just or necessary war, to maintain the rights or honour of my country, I would strip the shirts from my back
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to support it: But in such a war as this, unjust in it's principle, impracticable in its means, and ruinous in it's consequences, I would not contribute a single effort, nor a single shilling.—I do not call for vengeance on the heads of those who have been guilty---I only recommend to them to make their retreat.----Let them walk off. And let them make haste, or they may be assured that speedy and condign punishment will overtake them.

My Lords, I have submitted to you with the freedom and truth which I think my duty, my sentiments on your present awful situation.----I have laid before you the ruin of your power, the disgrace of your reputation, the pollution of your discipline, the contamination of your morals, the complication of calamities, foreign and domestic, that overwhelm your sinking country.-----Your dearest interests your own liberties, the constitution itself—totters to the foundation.---All this disgraceful danger, the multitude of misery; is the monstrous offspring of this unnatural war. We have been deceived and deluded too long.—But let us now stop short.—This is the crisis,—may be the only crisis of time and situation to give us a possibility

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of

of escape from the fatal effects of our delusions.—But if in an obstinate and infatuated perseverance in folly, we meanly echo back the peremptory words this day prescribed to us, nothing can save this devoted country from complete and final ruin.—We madly rush into multiplied miseries ;—and “ Confusion worse confounded ”—Is it possible—can it be believed, that Ministers are yet blind to this impending destruction ? I did hope, that instead of this false and empty vanity, —this overweening pride, “ engendering high conceits,” and presumptuous imaginations,—that Ministers would have humbled themselves in their errors,—would have confessed and retracted them ; and, by an active though a late repentance, have endeavoured to redeem them.—But, my Lords, since they had neither sagacity to foresee, nor justice nor humanity to shun these oppressive calamities ; since not even severe experience can make them feel, nor the imminent ruin of their country awaken them from their stupefaction,—the guardian care of parliament *must* interpose.—I shall therefore, my Lords, propose to you an amendment to the Address to his Majesty ; to be inserted immediately after the two first paragraphs of congratulation on the birth of a Princess,—to recom-

recommend an immediate cessation of hostilities, and the commencement of a treaty to restore peace and liberty to America, strength and happiness to England, security and permanent prosperity to both countries. This, my Lords, is yet in our power; and let not the wisdom and justice of your Lordships neglect the happy, and perhaps the only opportunity—By the establishment of irrevocable laws, founded on mutual rights, and ascertained by treaty, these glorious enjoyments may be firmly perpetuated.—And, let me repeat to your Lordships, that the strong bias of America, at least of the wide and founder parts of it, naturally inclines to this happy and constitutional re-connection with you.-----Notwithstanding the temporary intrigues with France, we may still be assured of their ancient and confirmed partiality to us. America and France cannot be congenial.----There is something decisive and confirmed in the honest American, that will not assimilate to the futility and levity of Frenchmen.----My Lords, to encourage and confirm that innate inclination to this country, founded on every principle of affection as well as consideration of interest,---to restore that favourable disposition into a permanent and powerful re-

union with this country ;----to revive the mutual strength of the empire ;---again to save the House of Bourbon, instead of meanly truckling, as our present calamities compel us, to every insult of French caprice and Spanish punctilio ;---to re-establish our commerce, to re-assert our rights and our honour,----to confirm our interests and renew our glories for ever ;----a consummation most devoutly to be endeavoured, and which I trust may yet arise from reconciliation with America ;---I have the honour of submitting to you the following Amendment, which I move to be inserted after the two first paragraphs of the Address.”---

“ And that this House does most
 “ humbly advise and supplicate his
 “ Majesty, to be pleased to cause the
 “ most speedy and effectual measures
 “ to be taken for restoring peace in
 “ America, and that no time may be
 “ lost in proposing an immediate ces-
 “ sation of hostilities there, in order
 “ to the opening a treaty for the final
 “ settlement of the tranquility of
 “ those invaluable provinces, by a
 “ removal of the unhappy causes of
 “ this

“ this ruinous Civil War, and by a
 “ just and adequate security against
 “ the return of the like calamities in
 “ times to come.-----And this House
 “ desire to offer the most dutiful assu-
 “ rances to his Majesty, that they
 “ will in due time, chearfully co-ope-
 “ rate with the magnanimity and ten-
 “ der goodness of his Majesty for the
 “ preservation of his people, by such
 “ explicit and most solemn declara-
 “ tions and provisions of fundamen-
 “ tal and irrevocable laws as may be
 “ judged necessary for ascertaining,
 “ and fixing for ever, the respective
 “ rights of Great Britain and her
 “ Colonies.”

Lord Chatham was supported in his pro-
 posed amendment, by Lord Abingdon, Lord
 Shelburne, the Duke of Grafton, Lord Cam-
 den, the Duke of Richmond, Lord Effing-
 ham, and the Bishop of Peterborough.

Lord Abingdon was short and spirited,
 but scarcely audible.

Lord

Lord Shelburne, as usual, placed the subject on a great scale, and discussed it in a very ample and comprehensive manner.

The Duke of Grafton spoke long, and with much earnestness, preserving at the same time what generally characterizes this Nobleman's speaking, a decent and chastised style of dignity.

Lord Camden was argumentative, sincere and animated. In addition to an understanding eminently acute, a perfect readiness both of language and argument, and the soundest learning, this able speaker possesses the most alluring sincerity of manner---His hearers are not only convinced by his argument, they are persuaded by his opinion.

The Duke of Richmond was a powerful assistant to the noble mover of the amendment. His Grace always makes himself master of some useful decisive facts, which he delivers and supports, with a plain manly firmness, and with equal spirit detects and exposes the misrepresentations of his opponents.

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The Bishop of Peterborough pronounced a short and pithy opinion on the question; cloathed in language uniting qualities rarely found together; it was both nervous and elegant. This Reverend Speaker is richly gifted by nature for public debate,----with a strong understanding, a commanding voice, an awful aspect, and on the whole a venerable solemnity of manner:----He anticipates the concurrence, by enforcing the respect of his audience. His speeches are always short, polished and pointed.---Powerful weapons in his able management: and generally successful, if not to subdue the understanding, to reach the heart.

Lord Effingham is so familiar and conversational in his manner and appearance, that he is in much danger of falling into the extreme of familiarity, against which, old Polonius cautions Laertes.

Lord Sandwich, Lord Weymouth, Lord Suffolk, Lord Osborne, (late Marquis of Carmarthen) Lord Cover, and Lord Townshend supported the original Address against the Amendment.

Lord

Lord Sandwich entered very minutely into the detail of the navy, in refutation of Lord Chatham's alarming state of it's weakness. His Lordship of the Admiralty is a circumstantial matter-of-fact speaker; with, now and then, a little seasoning of not the most elegant humour. With nothing of dignity, grace, or eloquence, and with little argument, he is notwithstanding an useful auxiliary. For, the confidence, or as he said himself, borrowing Lord Chatham's phrase, which he said *he was not ashamed of*, the "*Forehead*" with which he asserts his facts, and the importance he assumes from his official situation, create to him a sort of credit, which (if it were not Scand. Magn. so insinuate) neither his talents nor his integrity deserve.

Lord Weymouth expatiated on the question with considerable ability; and if not entirely with the dignity of a Nobleman or the decision of a Secretary of State, yet he always acquits himself with the liberality of a gentleman, and the skill of an able debater.

Lord Suffolk spoke with much seriousness, and not without some real importance both
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in manner and in matter, which if he did not strain and endeavour to swell beyond its natural size, would have more weight and effect. His periods are dulled and encumbered by a monotonous pomposity, and his feelings seem to have as little variety : yet, from a choice of language sufficiently classical, and an adequate knowledge of those parts of the subject he adverts to, recommended by the necessary official consequences of Secretary of State, he never speaks without attention, and a considerable share of respect.

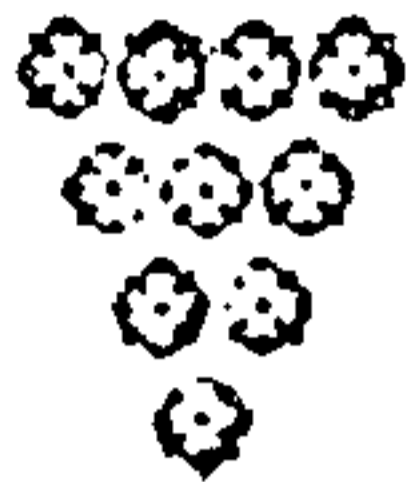
Lord Osborne is a spirited, manly and genteel young Nobleman.

Lord Gower did not on this occasion go deeply into the subject of debate, though he often does, and with a respectable share of information and abilities.—It may be said that this Nobleman does not forfeit in the great council of the nation that rank which he seems to fill with dignity as Lord President of a smaller one---comparatively at least with the courtly speakers that have been mentioned.

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Lord

Lord Townshend said little, and in his usual manner.---He is,---the direct reverse of his brother Charles.



THE debate hinged principally on the leading points pressed by Lord Chatham, the impracticability of the war;—the danger, or rather the imminent ruin to the commerce, the naval power, the liberties, the existence of this country, from pursuing it; our domestic weakness inviting the natural enmity of foreign states, &c. &c.—Besides these topics, his Lordship's supporters entered into some large discussions to repel the arguments of their opponents. For it was contended on the other side, that independency had been always the determined, and was now the avowed object of America: to suppress which, and to re-connect her to this country, nothing but a spirited prosecution of the war could avail;—that the strength of this country had been much misrepresented, for that instead of 20 only as had been asserted, we had now 35 ships of
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the line compleatly manned, or within 2 or 3000 men of being so: that seven ships were in commission, and could have their full complement in a fortnight or three weeks; that neither our channel nor the port of Lisbon was in possession of our enemies, for our men of war safely defended the one, and we had now a seventy-four gun ship at the other---that foreign powers were not so inimical as was pretended, for that France had given up the two West-India ships, American prizes, that had been required: but that though they were as hostile as the factious enemies of this country could argue or could wish, we had a naval force superior to the united powers of the House of Bourbon, and a force that an Admiral of the highest reputation, particularly acknowledged to be so by the opponents of government, (Admiral Keppel) would not be ashamed, as had been asserted, but was ready, to take the command of;---That the taking foreign troops into our pay, was the most expedient resource in this, as in former wars; ---that it was in fact cheaper and much better for the country than recruiting at home from our labourers and manufacturers; and as to the employment of the Indians;---- Lord Suffolk said, “It was a measure necessa-

ry in fact, and allowable in principle ; for that, first the Americans endeavoured to obtain their assistance ; and would have gained them if we had not ; and next, it was perfectly justifiable to use every means that God and Nature put into our hands.”

Lord CHATHAM.

—“ I am astonished,---shocked---to hear such principles confessed---to hear them avowed in this house, or in this country ;--- Principles, equally unconstitutional, inhuman, and unchristian.----My Lords, I did not intend to have encroached again on your attention :---but I cannot repress my indignation :--I feel myself impelled by every duty ;----My Lords, we are called upon as members of this house, as men, *as christian men*, to protest against such notions standing near the throne,-----polluting the ear of Majesty ! “ That God and Nature put into our hands” ! I know not what ideas that Lord may entertain of God and Nature ; but I know that such abominable principles are equally abhorrent to religion and humanity.----What ! to attribute the sacred sanction of God and Nature, to the massacres of the Indian scalping-knife !—to the Cannibal Savage, torturing, murdering, roasting, and eating—

eating——literally, my Lords, *eating* the mangled victims of his barbarous battles!—Such horrible notions shock every precept of religion divine or natural ; and every generous feeling of humanity ;—and, my Lords, they shock every sentiment of honour ;——they shock me as a lover of honourable war, and a detester of murderous barbarity.—These abominable principles, and this more abominable and shameless avowal of them, demand the most decisive indignation.—I call upon that *Right Reverend* Bench, those holy Ministers of the Gospel, and pious pastors of our Church—I conjure them to join in the holy work, and vindicate the religion of their God :——I appeal to the wisdom and the law of *this learned* Bench, to defend or support the justice of their country :—I call upon the Bishops to interpose the unfulfilled sanctity of their lawns,——upon the Reverend Judges to interpose the purity of their ermine—to save us from this pollution :—I call upon the honor of your Lordships to reverence the dignity of your ancestors, and to maintain your own :—I call upon the spirit and humanity of my country, to vindicate the national character :——*I invoke the genius of the constitution!*—From the tapestry that adorns these walls,
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the immortal ancestor of this noble Lord, * frowns with indignation at the disgraces of his country.--In vain he led your victorious fleets against the boasted Armadas of Spain.—In vain he defended and established the honour, the liberties, the religion, the *Protestant Religion*, of this country, against the arbitrary cruelties of Popery and the Inquisition;—If these more than popish cruelties and inquisitional practices are let loose among us,—to turn forth into our settlements, among our ancient connections friends and relations,—the merciless cannibal thirsting for the blood of man, woman, or child!—to send forth the infidel savage--against whom? against your protestant brethren.—To lay waste their country, to desolate their dwellings and extirpate their race and name, with these horrible hell-hounds of savage war! *Hell-hounds*--I say, of savage war.—Spain armed herself with blood-hounds to extirpate the wretched natives of America.—And we improve on the inhuman example even of Spanish cruelty.—We turn loose these savage hell-hounds against our brethren and countrymen in America; of the same language,

* The House of Lords is adorned with tapestry hangings, representing the destruction of the Spanish Armada in 1558 by the navy of England, commanded by Charles Lord Howard of Effingham, Lord High Admiral of England, (whose figure is at full length) ancestor to the present Earl of Effingham.

guage, laws, liberties, and religion ;—endeared to us by every tie that *should sanctify* humanity,

My Lords, this awful subject, so important to our honour, our constitution and our religion, demands the most solemn and effectual enquiry : and I again call upon your Lordships and the united powers of the state, to examine it thoroughly and decisively ; and to stamp upon it an indelible stigma of the public abhorrence. And I again implore those holy Prelates of our religion to do away these iniquities from amongst us :—let them perform a lustration—let them purify this house and this country from this sin.

My Lords, I am old and weak ;—and at present unable to say more ; but my feelings and my indignation were too strong to have said less. I could not have slept this night in my bed, nor reposed my head upon my pillow, without giving this vent to my eternal abhorrence of such preposterous and enormous principles.