

ceive the danger which is apprehended by some, from the exercise of the power in question. It appears to us, that the states possess ample security against any violation of their rights, in the *direct* responsibility, which one branch of congress owe to them, and the local attachments and feelings of the representatives of the people in the other branch.

The great error attending the investigation of the powers bestowed by the constitution on the national government, and what has given rise to a fastidious opposition to the beneficial exercise of some of those powers, is, that it has been viewed as a foreign, distinct and separate government. Were we to look exclusively to the written constitutions of each the conclusion would be a just one, but our whole system is anomalous—history furnishing nothing analogous to it. The same population constitutes the national government and the governments of the respective states: Hence the improbability that in the interpretation of the powers of the former, the rights of the latter should be overlooked or violated

If the history of our country from the commencement of the revolutionary war to the present day, did not contradict the supposition of the power of any form of the general government, thus constituted, being exercised so as to oppress the respective states, is not the idea too preposterous, to suppose that the representatives from the several states, in congress,