

be timely informed of what they will have to pay on the first of February, and to make a provision for such payment, we trust you will not consider it as our fault, who have nothing more to do than to pass or reject the bills framed by you for this purpose. Although circumstances might justify the remark, we cannot suppose that the delay has been occasioned with any design of raising an argument in favour of the immediate sale of British property, and we are satisfied that, upon further reflection on this subject, and from the reasons we have before given, you will be convinced of the impropriety of such sale, and that it cannot be the wish or desire to raise great emoluments to a few individuals at a certain and heavy loss to the public. We again repeat, we are as sensible as you can be of the weight of taxes that must unavoidably fall on the people, and are equally desirous of lightening their burthens; but we are persuaded we shall never receive their thanks, if, endeavouring by expedients to shun small and temporary inconveniences, we bring upon them much greater future evils.

There was nothing in our message to justify your expression, "if you are still inflexibly determined not to seize and appropriate British property in our power to enable us to carry on the war;" it cannot even be inferred from that message, that we were against such seizure and appropriation: it only intimated our opinion, that a subject so new and so important might properly lie over for the consideration of a future meeting, to receive a fuller discussion. Nothing you have offered has induced us to retract this opinion. We have endeavoured to shew, that the precipitation with which you seem inclined to hurry on this business, may be attended with evil consequences, and we