[illegible]

[illegible] Washington, she believed, [illegible] and, in a very [illegible] tude, [illegible] our representatives; under [illegible] she is divided, and she has [illegible] measures for the most [illegible] Was there still a basis for [illegible] in the continuance of opposition to administration? Let the recent conduct of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, let the language of some half dozen of the federal newspapers, *let the Pamphlet of the Addressers themselves*, answer the question.

Among other reasons assigned against a War (at page 6) by the pamphlet before me, is the *form* and the *instability* of our national government. The true answer to this argument is a severe stricture upon those who use it. It is obvious, that in a government like ours, its stability and its duration both depend upon the will of the people. To say therefore, that it is in danger of destruction from War, is to say that the people will not adhere to it in time of War. It is to say, in fact, that a government, established expressly for the "common defence and the general welfare" of the nation, by the citizens of the nation, will not, when defence is necessary, be upheld for the very purposes for which it was instituted. It is to say, in fine, that it is an inefficient government: For if a government will not answer in an emergency where the rights of the nation are to be vindicated and its wrongs avenged, then it is a defective government, and ought to be amended or abandoned as soon as possible. But why should the government be abandoned? Is it not a government of force; and, therefore, its duration does not depend upon any amount of force? It is a government of opinion, and it lives as the people think it ought to live, and sanctions it in it. It is, in fact, the only mode of rendering it [illegible] to the stability and [illegible] of its subjects; and thus it precisely is what the addressers have done. It is (they tell us at page 6) "a form of government in no small degree experimental, composed of *federal* and *independent sovereignties*, associated in relations, some of which are *critical* as well as *novel*." What can we infer from this passage but a menace of rebellion?—Upon whom, or upon what, are these "powerful and independent sovereignties" to act? Upon the general government? Upon the lawful organs of the national will? In what manner are they to act? By secret or other means? In arms or by policy?—These questions will not be answered by the addressers, because their observations are intended for the inspirations of their readers. They give the fire, and leave it to work its way into importance through the ignorance of the community. But the community are not to exist, [illegible] as the Addressers believe. Their "*powerful* and *independent* sovereignties" are neither powerful nor independent, [illegible] political point of view. They cannot raise an army, nor raise a navy, nor make treaties with foreign [illegible] there are a great many other things which they cannot do without being [illegible] And who took the power of doing these things from them? The people. The people of the states agreed to [illegible] their state government for local purposes, and to establish a general government for national purposes. The government of the United States is as much a government of the people of the states of Massachusetts, New York, Virginia, etc. [illegible] as the government of these several states are; and [illegible] to the direction of the people of the states, [illegible] Hence, if the people of the states, [illegible] War, in pursuance of the constitutional authority, [illegible] it is not [illegible] the government of the United States, but the people of the states, who have ordained it. The government of the United States is but the agent of the people of the states, and it is bound to obey them. The people have given it a certain portion of their power, and have ordained that it shall exercise it in certain cases, and in certain modes. The people have ordained that it shall declare War, and they have ordained that it shall do it in a certain manner. The people have ordained that it shall do it by a certain number of votes, and they have ordained that it shall do it by a certain number of men. The people have ordained that it shall do it by a certain number of men, and they have ordained that it shall do it by a certain number of men, and they have ordained that it shall do it by a certain number of men, and they