sentended for, ought to be considered by their government as an act of hostility, and treated accordingly. The least favorable conditions that she could fairly hope to obtain, should be settled, whilst the United States might accept or reject, as they think best. As a prudential, provisional and temporary measure, it could not be doubted that in the next war their situation would be more eligible than in the present one. The consumption in that they could be able to obtain which they could not last at present.

On the third article I have to observe, in addition to what is stated in the letter of date of January 3, 1807, that nothing would have been more easy than to have omitted any mention of them the subject of it, and to have placed the trade on the footing of the most favorable. To obtain this concession by treaty was utterly impossible. We were much indisposed to call any attention on the subject, because we were aware that the arrangements made would fall upon all the expenses of our government and country, and most probably subject us to censure. We ventured on that arrangement from a conviction that it secured as better terms than we should likely to obtain, if it did not depend on the pleasure of the British government, situated as we now were, with respect to Spain, the East India Company, and other interests of the country. It is impossible to conceive any other idea of the trade, than that which is entertained of the United States, in a commercial view, by that government, and the footing of which it thinks G. Britain is menaced by their astonishing prosperity and rapid growth. The boldness of enterprise, and the activity and ability with which they are prosecuting the navigation of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the situation of Europe, Great Britain has seen that, under the influence of a free trade, and without their aid, they have been enabled to supply the wants of the continent, and the depletion which was shown by the British navigation to exist in respect to the commerce of Europe, speaking, as she said, of the land of Indian discovery, and the commercial monopoly of Europe, that a commercial rivalry, of a most formidable character, has sprung up between the United States and Great Britain, and I have good reason to believe, that the government of Great Britain, and I have good reason to believe, that the government of Great Britain, and I have good reason to believe, that the government of