the ruin of both countries, at least of this. Can we support the loss of America, or a long war?

There is a black cloud nearer. The livery of London have begun a quarrel with the King,[1] and have actually proclaimed war on his ministers,[2] as you will see by the papers.[3] I do not take panic—but —if any blow should happen from America, the mob of London is a formidable foe on a sudden: a minister may be executed before he is impeached—and considering the number of American merchants[4] in the City, and of those who have connections in America, riots may be raised—but I hate to prophesy—I have always augured ill of this quarrel, and washed my hands of it. It has made me resume a thought, which my age and indolence do not incline me to, another journey to Paris.[5] You will perhaps hear I am setting out before my

1. Over 'The Humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of London,' on American affairs, voted 24 June to be presented to the King on 28 June, provided 'his Majesty would receive it sitting on the throne' (*Daily Adv.* 26, 29 June). Upon the King's answer that he would receive it 30 June 'at the levee,' Sheriff Plomer told George III 'that the Livery . . . have resolved not to present their address . . . unless your Majesty shall be pleased to receive it sitting on the throne.' The King is reported to have replied, 'I am ever ready to receive addresses and petitions—but I am the judge where' (*London Chronicle* 4–6 July, xxxviii. 22). The Livery, when informed, adopted a set of resolutions (several of them moved 24 June) on 4 July, and ordered that they be presented to the King on 5 July. It was resolved, 'That the King is bound to hear the petitions of his people. . . . That whoever advised his Majesty . . . to refuse hearing the Humble Address . . . on the throne is equally an enemy to the happiness and security of the King, and to the peace and liberty of the people' (ibid.).

2. The 'Humble Address' expressed the Livery's 'abhorrence of the tyrannical measures pursued against our fellow subjects in America, as well as of the men who secretely advise, and of the ministers who execute these measures'; it charged that the King placed his confidence in 'men, a majority of whom are notoriously bribed to betray their constituents and their country'; that his 'throne is surrounded by men avowedly inimical to those principles on which your Majesty possesses the crown and this people their liberties'; it prayed the King 'to dismiss your present ministers and advisers from your person and counsels forever; [and] to dissolve . . . Parliament' (ibid.). On 4 July the Livery also instructed its representatives in Parliament to move an address 'to know who were the advisers of those fatal measures . . . to move for an impeachment of the authors and advisers of those measures, that by bringing them to public justice, evil counsellors may be removed from before the King' (ibid.).

3. The 'Proceedings at the Meeting of the Livery in Common Hall on Saturday June 24 and on Tuesday last July 4, as published by Order of the Common Hall,' in both the *Public Adv.* 6 July and the *London Chronicle* 4–6 July, xxxviii. 22–3. A 'Concise Account of the Proceedings at Guildhall on Tuesday last, July 4,' was published ibid. xxxviii. 21, *sub* 5 July, and similar accounts appear in the *Public Adv.* and *Daily Adv.* of 5 July.

4. London merchants trading with America.

5. HW left London, 16 Aug. on his last journey to Paris (DU DEFFAND v. 342).