exertions here, and further Southward, or a naval superiority, I do not see how it is to be prevented.

Permit me again, therefore, to suggest to your Excellency, the vast importance of preparing the powers of your State, for the support of this. It is true, the uncertainty which appears in the enemy's movements, may be construed differently. If we suppose, that, in order to secure their two principal ports, they mean only to leave a garrison at Portsmouth, it may present us with an opportunity of acting against it. In such a case, we should not have our succours to collect, lest we should lose the moment. And, if their whole force remain, we shall have a yet stronger call for re-