

INTRODUCTION.

IN the event therefore of this contest—let us again repeat it—not *the separate interests of his Majesty, but those of his British subjects are involved*. If the Americans insult him by groundless complaints of his government, it is because he *asserted our rights*:—if they have dared to renounce all allegiance to his Crown, it is because he *determined not to give up our rights*^k.

His Majesty insulted for supporting our interests.

THE general charge brought against his Majesty, in this audacious paper, is, that “*the history of his reign is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations; all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over*”—what they call—“*these states*,”—what we should call—his Majesty’s subjects in America.

The general charge brought against his Majesty.

IN support of this atrocious charge certain *maxims* are advanced; a *theory* of Government is established; and what the Authors of the Declaration call *Facts*, are submitted, as they tell us, to “*the candid world*.”

Proofs alleged in support of the charge.

THESE maxims, this theory, and these facts we are now about to examine. We shall begin by the *facts*. And to state them more clearly, the several charges are numbered; and divided into so many separate *Articles*. They are given in the order in which they stand in the Declaration; and each considered apart. But as there is a studied confusion

Method observed in the examination of the pretended proofs, by which this charge is supported.

^k This has been expressly acknowledged by the Author of Common Sense. A book which has been in some sort adopted by the Congress; many of the most striking passages of the Declaration being borrowed from it. The charge there alleged against the King is—“*That he has undertaken in his own right, to support the Parliament in what he calls theirs*.” “It is by this combination”—adds the Author, and the Declaration adopts the phrase,—“*that the good people of America are grievously oppressed*.” [Introduction.]