

esteem of the most virtuous, and hitherto the most loyal part of this nation, you would follow them to the grave. Without evidence, and contrary to the clearest evidence, you are first pleased to suppose them guilty, you would then proceed to their execution. "The Americans," you say, "have invaded Canada, they are acting on the offensive; we are not to enquire who was the aggressor; we must proceed: if we do not kill them, they will kill us." On this occasion we can hardly say which is the most conspicuous, your Lordship's humanity, or your close attachment to the history of facts; the Americans are acting on the offensive, if we do not kill them they will kill us: this is curious and perfectly new. On what principal does your Lordship suppose we can adopt this story, while we retain a spark of common sense? Have we not seen a map of that country? Have we not read the history of the present war. Your violence commenced by shutting up the port of Boston; a fleet and army were sent to intimidate and distress the inhabitants, till, by the pure dint of compulsion, like beasts and not like men, they should give what they were not suffered to refuse. They seemed to wince under the yoke; you then cut off their fishery, and lest *starvation* should make them more refractory, you sent more troops. All America had been complaining, therefore it was resolved that all America should be reduced to a perfect state of slavery. Their charters were to be abolished, and they were to be held by military tenure. Such was your plan.

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