of the article, and when it was incurred, it raised a debt against the United States, for the discharge of which, by anticipation, Parliament could not, on any rational

ground, have been expected to provide.

On the whole, therefore, it does not appear on what ground those holders of the adjudications stated in the question, who were American loyalists, can maintain a better title on the subject of that question, than that on which the British merchants, and His Majesty's other subjects, holding such adjudications, have relied.