

stances, we should still persist in our efforts against America—Let us look back to the measures we have already pursued; and from past errors endeavour to collect precepts for future wisdom.

The privilege of not being taxed without our own consent, has, since the earliest periods of our constitution, been deservedly dear to every Englishman. Perhaps there is not one of which the people are more jealous; or even their representatives, in times of the greatest corruption, more watchful. Independently of the quiet enjoyment of “private property” being one of the three component parts of liberty, it forms such a restraint upon the royal power, as to give to the people, could they remain uncorrupted, the controul over almost every action of the crown (a).

I will not enter into the question, whether a distant colony, dependent upon a kingdom, has a right to share every privilege in common with that kingdom: or whether this country had any just claim of taxation over America unrepresented. It is sufficient for the present purpose to consider, that this country attempted to exer-

(a) In De Lolme on the Constitution, p. 86, this is placed in a very strong light.