

a measure of this kind will falsify the declaration of Congress constantly held up to the people, that the Parliament intends to enslave them. It cannot fail to remove their fears and fix a confidence in the justice and upright intentions of the State towards them; and it must do more *towards breaking the confederacy of the Colonies*, and restoring their obedience to Government, than any other measure that can be possibly devised.

The remarkable success of this policy, when adopted by Rome on a similar occasion, will, I trust, prove a lesson of instruction to Britain. The supreme authority of that city was absolute over her Colonies and Provinces. A constitutional participation in the rights of that authority, though possessed by the citizens, was imprudently withheld from the colonists. This distinction, in respect to their politic rights, gave great discontent to the latter. To obtain the same rights which were enjoyed by their fellow subjects in Rome, they entered into a confederacy, and took arms. The *Social war* ensued. Many battles were fought; the colonists often triumphed; and Rome was reduced to the greatest extremity. At length her obstinacy and folly gave way to her safety. A law was passed, called the *Lex Julia*, because proposed and obtained by Lucius Julius Cæsar, granting to such of the Colonies as should lay down their arms, the *constitutional rights of Roman citizens*. This law being immediately communicated to the Colonies, what were the consequences? Those Colonies which were tired of the war, those which were content with the terms offered, and those which wished to be united with Rome, although the mode of the grant was not perfectly agreeable to them, laid down their arms, deserted the union, and returned to their former obedience. And Rome, whose armies had been defeated in almost every battle, now, and not till now, triumphed in her turn; and soon after, honourably to herself, ended the war, and recovered her lost authority over the Colonies.

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