

sovereignty of Parliament over the Colonies, he had excited a more decisive denial of it, and resistance to it.—An election drew nigh, and he dreaded the resentment even of the corrupted electors.

IN this state of mind, bordering on despair, he determines to strike a bold stroke. By attacking all the Colonies together, by the Stamp Act, and the Paint and Glass Act, they had been defeated. The Charter Constitution of the Massachusetts Bay had contributed greatly to both these defeats.—Their Representatives were too numerous, and too frequently elected, to be corrupted; their People had been used to consider affairs in their Town-meetings: Their Counsellors were not absolutely at the nod of a Minister or Governor; but were, once a year, equally dependant on the Governor and the two Houses.—Their Grand Jurors were elective by the People; their Petit Jurors were returned merely by lot. The Junta rightly judged, that by this Constitution the People had a check on every branch of power; and therefore, as long as it lasted, Parliamentary Taxations, &c. could never be enforced.

BERNARD publishes his Select Letters, and his Principles of Polity: Hireling Garretteers  
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