

American." The Bill was not suffered to lie upon the table, but was rejected by a vote of 61 to 32. Their Lordships had heard William Pitt and Jemmy Twitcher, and had chosen. Seven weeks later the House of Commons rejected Burke's resolutions by 270 to 78. Before Chatham again appeared in the House blood had been shed; the *immedicabile vulnus* which he feared had been inflicted.

Mr. Harrison's verdict probably rests on the emphasis with which the proposed Bill, a Bill intended to bring about peace with America, asserts the prerogatives of the mother country. This was doubtless in part designed, as Chatham told Benjamin Franklin, to make it more acceptable to Parliament. It was primarily designed as a basis for discussion; had it been adopted, and had Chatham come into power, during the discussion more might have been yielded to the Americans. But it is also true that Chatham saw that unless the Empire is sound at the heart, strength at the extremities avails little. Speaking in November, 1770, on the quarrel with Spain over the Falkland islands, he had said: "I cannot conclude without endeavouring to bring home your thoughts to an object more immediately interesting to us than any I have yet considered; I mean the internal condition of this country. We may look abroad for wealth or triumphs or luxury; but England, my Lords, is the mainstay, the last resort, of the whole Empire. To this point every scheme of policy, whether foreign or domestic, should ultimately refer." Chatham was no believer in the theory that the colonial is a better Imperialist than the Englishman, that it is for the colonies to dictate the policy, and for the Mother Country to be satisfied with the privilege of paying the bill. The very first clause in the bill lays down the right of parliament to regulate Imperial trade. "Be it enacted . . . . . that the colonies of America have been, are, and of right ought to be, dependent upon the Imperial Crown of Great Britain, and subordinate unto the British parliament, and that the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, had, hath, and of right ought to have, full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the people of the British colonies in America,