

said, as a reason for carrying on this War of Parliament, that the Americans had offered to lay kingdoms at the feet of the Crown, but which his Majesty disdained to accept*. This is an heavy charge, and, as I am as much an enemy to *arbitrary* power in the Crown; as I am to *arbitrary* power in Parliament, if true, I must confess, except so far as the justice of this nation is concerned in such a war, I should feel little concern else for America : but as it seems very unnatural that men should be surrendering their liberties, at the very time that they are fighting for them, so I have reason to believe that this argument has been formed upon grounds that will not support it. It is true, the Americans acknowledge the authority of the King, and will not acknowledge the authority of the Parliament. It is from hence, therefore, I presume, inferred, that the Americans are laying kingdoms at the feet of his Majesty ; and if so, to explain this matter, is to remove the charge. The Americans were the subjects of the Crown of England, and of course owed allegiance to the King of England. They were never the *subjects* of their *fellow-subjects* the Parliament of England, and therefore neither owed nor professed allegiance to Parliament. Besides, the King of England, by the Constitution of England, cannot levy taxes on his subjects ; and therefore, for the Americans to acknowledge the authority of the King, is no surrender of their property to the King : whereas if they acknowledged the authority of Parliament, who do exercise the right of taxation over the People when represented, it would be without their being represented, a surrender of their property to Parliament ; and a forging of chains for themselves. Under the acknowledged authority, then of the Crown, the Americans still preserve their constitutional Rights : under the *required* acknowledged authority of Parliament, they would lose them ; and this is the reason that the Americans acknowledge

* The Archbishop of York has adopted the same assertion. See his Sermon, p. 22, and 23.