

of territory is, in this case, no better than the empty possession of a shadow or a phantom. Nay, one may go further, and assert, that so far from being any advantage, it is a real and a solid grievance: and all that Britain has been doing, by a long, bloody, and expensive war, was only to vindicate her right to dominions, under the burden of which she will groan and totter, as *Tarpeia* did under the weight of those very spoils and trophies, which she herself had desired. But the *Right of Taxation* cannot be seriously denied, *even by the Americans themselves*, though it may be resisted. I am aware that there are *Resolutions* of the several assemblies, which call in question the authority of the Mother Country, in this particular. But the secret and surreptitious manner in which these resolutions have been procured, for instance, at the end of a session, when the greatest part of the members were retired into the country, and those who remained, were the most raw and inexperienced; plainly proves that they do not contain the *general sense* of the Countries, from which they were sent.