

they would lose the enormous benefit they now derive from the duties on their timber and corn being much lower in England than those levied on the same, or even better commodities, coming from other countries. That we benefit by this, in the long run, even more than the Colonies do, I fully believe; but still the loss to them of such sources of profit would be immense, in case of the connexion being broken.

It is of the greatest importance, not only to England, but to the Colonies likewise, that, as an integral part of the extensive system very hastily sketched above, the Crown should retain a considerable share of influence in the very heart of those countries.

Were the salaries of the more important officers of government always paid by the Mother Country, her influence would, I think, be more secure, and consequently the happiness of the Colonies more permanent, than if she were to permit them to defray the whole expense of their civil list. There is little doubt, I believe, that they would assume that burden, if, unfortunately for themselves, as well as for us, they should be called upon to do so by the government at home.

After all, the trifling expense of a few of the civil officers in the North American provinces, together with the more serious, but equally ne-

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