

word and deed. They are still hankering, to the very last expiring struggle, after that only unconquerable and everlasting attachment of their hearts, dominion under the royal name.

A very few words to supply the context, will make the whole system perfectly intelligible. Parliament, indeed, shall make an absolute surrender of the purse and of the sword to America, saving and reserving to the Crown, the command over the money and men of America, as necessary to an *union of force*. This substitution of the Crown is no strain upon the construction; it is always tacitly understood, unless it be expressly relinquished. It emerges, of course, upon any question of executive or federal powers. I will now quote to you the words of a proclamation of the British Commissioners in America, in which (without even a transient thought of Parliament) they plead very pathetically for the re-admission of royal prerogatives into America. You may then judge whether I have given an unfair or uncandid construction of it. It is another part of the same proclamation of which I have spoken so much already: the words are as follow: "The Congress, the assemblies, and the people of America will judge for themselves, whether that *union of force*," (viz. under the Crown) "which we, on our part, deem of so much advantage to Great Britain, may not be of equal advantage to them. And whether the internal peace of their own system will not be more secure under the title and majesty of the King of Great Britain, whose prerogatives are exercised within strict limitations, and whose authority will ensure the regular execution of every law, that may be provided by the representatives of the people, &c." These are new doctrines to be held out in a proclamation by parliamentary commissioners. The nation has been immersed in profound darkness and errors for many years; they have been instructed to believe, that they were fighting for some national rights, or for parliamentary supremacy; but they have been grievously deceived, and misled: Dominion and Prerogative have been the Alpha and Omega. I believe we are now got to the very bottom of all bottoms. Parliament may surrender its supremacy and legislation, and taxation, and the act of navigation, and all the beneficial interests of the nation; but if ministers could prevail, to establish the Crown at the head of all the executive and federal powers of the whole continent of America, independent and uncontrouled by parliament, all would again be well for them. Thirty or forty millions of money at the nation's cost, and thirty or forty thousand lives, are matters of very trivial consideration in the pursuit of such objects, for the purpose of augmenting the power of the Ministers of the Crown; but certainly for no purpose beneficial to our own country. These are the objects which Ministers have invariably pursued, from the first to the last. Such propositions as these being avowed and recited in a public proclamation, viz. to invest the Crown with all the executive and federal powers of the whole continent of North America, independent of a British Parliament, and this after the surrender of every national interest and parliamentary claim, brings up the charge to proof positive—and I will venture to say, that they never will voluntarily relinquish those objects, till they shall have attempted to wreck their vengeance upon America for their defeat, by a savage and universal devastation of