

burthens. We are in the mean time not to consider which way we came into these perplexities and difficulties ; we are not to return and to retreat by treading our steps backwards ; we are to go on because we have got so far ; our having begun at first with folly and with madness is an unanswerable reason for our proceeding with fury and with desperation.

All the old and the mutual ties, the union, the conjunction between Great-Britain and our ancient North-America are now cut, severed and dissolved : acts of parliament, acts of assembly, orders of council, charters are between us become only a dead letter and waste paper : the authority of the mother-country on the one hand and the duty of our colonies on the other are totally and absolutely cancelled : our protection is changed into war and into waste towards them and their dependence into resistance and into a return of hostility towards us : The dominion of Great-Britain over rich and vast territories so lately her own extends now no further than our cannon can command : we have parted with our prodigious possessions on that continent only for the hopes and the prospect of conquering