

religiously to the ancient system; that a claim of new privileges by the Americans, for they have been taxed before by our parliament, will be attended with many immediate disadvantages, and that the remote consequence will be their own ruin and slavery.

But if, after all, the prejudices of the Americans should be so great as to make them reject all reasonable terms of accommodation, should they be so tenacious of what they call their privileges, as to be fully resolved on asserting an absolute independence on the parliament of Great Britain. Should they be determined, rather than yield to it as formerly, to proceed to the last extremity, I would, with all due deference to the wisdom of parliament, advise a certain number of contiguous provinces to be incorporated, and to be allowed parliaments under the same restriction as that of Ireland.

If they decline this equitable compromise, were I a member of either House, I would give my vote for treating