

upon, there will be irresolution, on the one side, and repugnance, on the other; and no system can be stable, that is not founded upon equity, and wisdom.

It is the resolution of the present Ministry, it is said, to impose taxes upon the Colonies, by the authority of the British Parliament, and to *compell* the Colonies to submission. To examine the justice and the policy of those measures, and to suggest others, which appear to be less exceptionable, in each of those particulars, is my object.

The Colonies, by their respective Charters, have not uniformly the same privileges, or the same constitution. But though they differ, in many particulars, they are alike, in the following; namely, That the inhabitants of every one of them, have a right to tax themselves by their representatives, in their provincial assemblies; that none of them vote for representatives, in the British Parliament; and that all of them are to enjoy the freedom of British subjects. In the search for arguments against the Americans, the validity of those charters has not passed unquestioned. I shall say, however, but a little in their support