

Allan Ramsay the younger, in the same year that the *Wealth of Nations* was published, said much the same thing: "Things are now arrived at that point of necessity that Great Britain must sink under the weight of Empire if she doth not extend her taxation in equal proportion as she hath extended her dominion."¹ This was the British point of view which led inevitably to the unhappy attempt to tax the Colonies, which precipitated the whole question. "The Parliament of Great Britain insists upon taxing the Colonies; and they refuse to be taxed by a Parliament in which they are not represented."² Thus was the problem raised, the only solution of which could be the recognition of the general community of interests by binding them up in some form of Imperial unity.

Galloway clearly recognized this community of interests: "Every Colony, as a member of the State, ought to be obliged to contribute toward the defence of the whole Empire, in proportion to the property and wealth which each Colony affords." But the privileges, he

Unity of
interest

¹ Allan Ramsay, *Plan of Reconciliation*, 1776.

² Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*, book iv., chap. vii., part iii.