

whenever you *repeal the act*; a compliance with which ought to be made the test of *their* obedience, as it is of *your* sovereignty.

Dangerous and inconsistent as the doctrine of a celebrated commoner has been, upon this occasion (and surely it is subversive of all order and government, at the same time that it is repugnant to the very principles of reason, justice, and the law of nations) I cannot help thinking it less absurd and pernicious, upon the whole, than this shuffling, prevaricating and temporizing scheme of the present ministry. To adopt Mr. PITT's idea, might be imputed, by the Colonists, to a tenderness for the rights and privileges of the people, which inclines the British legislature, in a point that carries with it the least shadow of ambiguity, rather to cede from their own power, than to trespass, in the slightest degree, upon the Liberties of the subject. Such indulgence as this might possibly (but how dangerous to put it to the trial?) work upon their gratitude, and make them, for the future, as cautious of

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offending,