

have come to the several following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That the first adventurers and settlers of this his Majesty's colony and dominion of Virginia, brought with them; and transmitted to their posterity, and all other his Majesty's subjects since inhabiting in this his Majesty's colony, all the privileges and immunities that have at any time been held, enjoyed, and possessed by the people of Great Britain.

*Resolved*, That by the two royal charters granted by King James the First, the colonists aforesaid are declared entitled to all privileges of faithful liege and natural born subjects, to all intents and purposes, as if they had been abiding and born within the realm of England.

*Resolved*, That his Majesty's liege people of this his most ancient colony, have enjoyed the right of being thus governed by their own assembly, in the article of taxes and internal police, and that the same have never been forfeited, or any other way yielded up, but have been constantly recognized by the King and people of Great Britain.

*Resolved*, Therefore, that the General Assembly of this colony, together with his Majesty or his substitute, have, in their representative capacity, the only exclusive right and power to lay taxes and impositions upon the inhabitants of this colony; and that every attempt to rest such a power in any person or persons whatsoever, other than the General Assembly aforesaid, is illegal, unconstitutional, and unjust, and has a manifest tendency to destroy British, as well as American freedom.

*The following Resolves were not passed, only drawn up by the Committee.*

*Resolved*, That his Majesty's liege people, the inhabitants of this co-

lony, are not bound to yield obedience to any law or ordinance whatsoever, designed to impose any taxation whatsoever upon them, other than the laws and ordinances of the General Assembly aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That any person who shall, by speaking or writing, maintain that any person or persons, other than the General Assembly of this colony, have any right or power to impose or lay any taxation whatsoever on the people here, shall be deemed an enemy to this his Majesty's colony.

The stamp act was printed and cried about the streets at New York by the title of *The Folly of England, and Ruin of America*. On the 14th of April, the guns at Philadelphia were discovered to be all spiked up, and on looking at those of the barracks, they were found to be served in the same manner, to the great surprize and uneasiness of the inhabitants. Letters arrived in London, from Boston, in New England, dated the 1st and 6th of April, expressing the alarm that the news of the stamp act had thrown the people into, the heart-burnings increased during the summer, and the New York paper, in the beginning of June, 1765, gave sufficient proofs of the temper with which the colonists beheld the approach of the 1st of November, on which day the act was to take place. Letters of the same tenor came from Virginia, dated in June, and from Philadelphia, of the same date.

It was not the populace alone who were discontented, men of property took the alarm. The General Assembly of Virginia having debated on the stamp act, come to the preceding resolutions; the Governor thought fit to dissolve them. But when a new election took place, it did not seem to be composed of

men