

proper bounds, second, the keeping of them there. "This establishment is to be best effected by the varying of the present form, and subjecting the whole tract of colonies under one and the same governor. . . . For this purpose a scheme has been handed about, as a barrel thrown out of the ship of state. . . It seems strange that any colony should expect to have their government more in the hands or power of the people than is the constitution of their parental dam unless the scheme is to set the happiness of the colony in so distinguished a light as may charm over to them the inhabitants of the mother country. . . yet some such government must be established. If the only end proposed is to form a proper union against the French, I think there needeth not this extraordinary measure to attain it, and it seems to me that they were better incorporated, electing a doge out of their own body, as I see no reason why the government here should bear the expense, when the colony assumes all the power to itself. . . If a general government be thought on, this plan is very easy and clear; the distinct governments and governors remain as before. . . the most power that can reasonably be vested in the supreme is to preside in the great council, and execute the laws made by the people and sanctified by the Parliament of Great Britain, as is done in similar cases by the King-in-Council. . . Some difficulties will occur. . . in the allotment of quotas from their probable growth or improvement, by which one may vastly outnumber the other; when double the extent of ground and number of people will pay no more than at first. . . This the scheme limits at 500. . . kind of a remedy for, but does not remedy the possibility that some may rather be without representation than at any expense since it will happen that the disproportion will increase with the success or industry of the planters, and the value of £8000 a year pay less in one place than £400 in another. . . the remedy of the proportion is not so ready as at first may appear. . . There is besides a vast variety of matter which schemes rarely reflect on." (23)

Here the writer branches off into a discussion on the abuse of power, and misappropriation of public funds. He sarcastically refers to the American plan as "Utopia is a very fine country, and our Americans are inclined to travel that way; but it is like some of the regions in romance that vanish at mortal appearance. The