

planation may continue to be made, a foundation for every kind of oppression : but they do not believe that the framers of the declaratory act could ever be charged with the desire of taxing them ; since it was notorious that they had introduced that very act as a kind of salvo for the authority of Parliament, in order that they might be enabled to repeal the only law by which America was taxed. The declaratory act was a sword of state, for ornament rather than for use ; it was never to be drawn for the purpose of revenue, nor for any other occasion less important than the salvation of the empire. In this light the Americans viewed it from the beginning, for which reason it had not the least tendency to check those shouts of joy which were heard from every province when the stamp-act was repealed. If we are still at a loss to know whether all classes of men among us are equally obnoxious to the Americans, and whether they consider themselves equally aggrieved by all, let us hear the late declaration of the congress, the very piece your Lordship is pleased to quote. After enumerating the many acts of injustice and cruelty that have lately been practised against them, they add “ fruitless were all the
 “ entreaties, arguments, and eloquence of an
 “ illustrious band of the most distinguished
 “ peers and commoners, who nobly and strenuously asserted the justice of our cause, to
 “ stay or even to mitigate the heedless fury
 “ with which these accumulated and unex-
 “ amplified