

bly shake off all subjection and dependance : they are now secured by our arms from foreign, as well as neighbouring enemies ; and are rich enough to live without our assistance, and believe me, gentlemen, they will shew it to our sorrow : if in the present instance, we palliate or temporize, the consequence will be, that in a very few years, perhaps in a few months, they will set aside *the act of navigation*, they will purchase what goods they please, in what markets they think proper, and trade with England, on no other terms, than those of their own imposing. Indeed, it implies an absurdity to suppose only the contrary---for who can imagine that a set of men will submit to pay five and twenty, or thirty per cent. more for goods, than they could purchase them for elsewhere, when they have nothing to do, but to deny and resist your authority ? What will it signify that by a formal resolution of the house of C-----, or by an act of parliament, you ascertain the *right of taxation* ? Your power is merely speculative, and your dominion over them exists only in theory : for as to the actual and practical part of it, you give it up,
whenever