

# BARKER'S

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### ON COLONIAL REPRESENTATION.

BY GORE.

"This I dare confidently aver, that there are no such enemies to the King's prerogative as those who, advancing it beyond due bounds, do necessarily draw it into dispute."—*Prynne on the Sovereign Power.*

In some cases, they who run may read, and we think the necessity of a change in the existing Colonial system is an obvious instance of that "old saw." The trans-marine possessions of Great Britain have reached a point of grandeur so entirely unimagined, that the whole frame-work of their government is, as it were, disjointed by that vastness. They are "cabined, cribbed, confined, pent in," by their present system of alliance. The original scheme of organization, providing for their internal regulation, their intercourse with each other and the Mother Country, admitting it to be all its warmest admirers can claim, fails in proportion: now, admirable as that economy might be, applied to the few hundreds of the past, it becomes hourly more and more inapplicable to the millions of the present. We hold, in short, there must be a change—a vast organic change—a change commensurate to the increase in territory, numbers, and commercial wealth of our Colonial Empire. There must be an alteration of the Colonial dependance—the apprenticeship system must end—for with the knowledge, the thews and sinews of manhood, (and it has come,) come also *rights* and (we cheerfully acknowledge) *duties*. These *rights* we proudly ask for, since we know ourselves capable of the *duties* they impose.

There are two characters under which every Colony must be considered. In the first, they represent a federal Sovereignty; in the second, an integral portion of the Empire. We have a few remarks to make on each of these relations. Regarded as Sovereignities, connected to the Mother Country and each other by organic laws, it follows that all powers necessary to these purposes are involved in that fundamental arrangement. It is a cession defined and controlled; but this placing of bound and limit, shows that whatsoever else pertained originally