

always be contemplated together. For, in our present circumstances, neither ought the revenue to be sacrificed for the augmentation of our trade, nor ought our trade to be lessened for the sake of increasing the public revenue. I enter not into the question of right litigated between the state and the India company. Whatever comes of the dewane, the sovereignty of Great-Britain over the ter-

King James the First seems to have had an idea of his own independency upon the community; and the parliament, In their first act in his reign, thought it fitting to declare, whence all the branches of the legislature derived their authority: "The whole body of the realm," says the statute, "and every particular member thereof, either in person, or "by representation upon their own free election, are, by "the laws of the realm, deemed to be present in the high "court of parliament." They do not say in the house of commons, but in parliament. The constitutional doctrine, therefore, is, that the *whole legislature* represents the people of the realm: the king and the lords are equally, with the commons, the representatives of the community, and equally accountable to the people for their conduct. Hence it is that the people have a right to petition, as they frequently do, the other branches of the legislature, to destroy the acts of the commons: which would be a strange absurdity, if the commons only were their representatives or agents, and vested with full powers to act for them.

The people have, indeed, a cheque upon the conduct of the individuals, who compose an house of commons from the frequent returns of their elections; which they have not upon either of the other branches of the legislature; and it is, therefore, to be presumed, that the members of that house will be more particularly attentive to the circumstances and inclination of the people, than either the prince or the peers can be supposed to be. The grant of supplies should, for this reason, originate with the commons; and, for a contrary one, the ultimate decision of controversies respecting property, should rest with the lords,

ritorics