

they knew their designs, and planted Papists in their rear to keep their rebellious subjects, as they call them, between two fires, and to deter them from taking refuge in the back settlements; but they have numbers and virtue sufficient to enable them to keep, or at least to recover their ground. Thus have a corrupt majority, falsely called the Great Council of the Nation, themselves departed, and encouraged Government to depart, in this as well as numberless other instances, from the line of right laid down at the Revolution, a period but little revered by our State-pilots, Bute and Mansfield; these two men, with their lacqueys in and out of Parliament, are the real and only incendiaries of America. The wretched Americans, unjustly branded by every hireling with the name of traitors, are only busied, and justly busied, in extinguishing those flames, which such a government (if it deserves the name of one) has kindled; whether the Americans are traitors, or unhappy subjects making a lawful resistance to repeated tyrannies, must be determined, not by hirelings, who assassinate for pay, but by those who pay them with reluctance, by the collective body of the people, in whom all power virtually resides, from whom it originates, and to whom it must perhaps shortly dissolve again. What the General calls treason, this collective body (an awful tribunal) will pronounce constitutional resistance.

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