

though less understood, this our most excellent Constitution. If we can avail ourselves of these Taxes on no other Condition, I shall never look upon it as a Measure of Frugality; being perfectly satisfied, that in the End, it will be much cheaper for us to pay their Army, than their Orators.

I cannot omit taking Notice of one prudential Reason, which I have heard frequently urged against this Taxation of the Colonies; which is this: That if they are by this Means impoverished, they will be unable to purchase our Manufactures, and consequently we shall lose that Trade, from which the principal Benefit which we receive from them must arise. But surely, it requires but little Sagacity to see the Weakness of this Argument; for should the Colonies raise Taxes for the Purposes of their own Government and Protection, would the
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