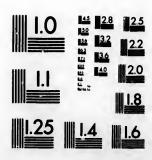


# IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



Photographic Sciences Corporation

23 WEST MAIN STREET WEBSTRY, N.Y. 14580 College Fairs



CIHM/ICMH Microfiche Series.

CIHM/ICMH Collection de microfiches.



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadian de microreproductions historiques



#### Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.			qu'i de d poli une mo	L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.					
	Coloured covers/ Couverture de coul	eur				d pages/ e couleur			
	Covers damaged/ Couverture endomi	magée				amaged/ ndommag	<del>óo</del> s		
	Covers restored and Couverture restaure		•			estored an estauráes (			
	Cover title missing, Le titre de couvertu			V		scoloured écolorées,			
	Coloured maps/ Cartes géographiqu	es en couleur				etached/ étachées			
	Coloured ink (i.e. o Encre de couleur (i.			re)	Showthi Transpai				
	Coloured plates and Planches et/ou illus					of print va négale de		ion	
	Bound with other n Relié avec d'autres					suppleme nd du mat			'e
	Tight binding may d along interior may d Lareliure serrée pe distortion le long do	in/ ut causer de l'	ombre ou d		Seule éd Pages w	tion availa	onible artially ob		
	Blank leaves added appear within the to have been omitted Il se peut que certa lors d'une restaurat mais, lorsque cela é pas été filmées.	ext. Whenever from filming/ ines pages bla ion apparaisse	possible, t nches ajout nt dans le t	tées lexte,	ensure the Les page obscurci etc., ont	sues, etc., ne best po es totalem es par un été filmée a meilleur	ssible ima ent ou pa feuillet d' es à nouv	aga/ rtiellemen errata, un eau de faç	nt ne pelure,
	Additional commen Commentaires supp								
	item is filmed at the								
10X	ocument est filmé au 14X	J LOUX DE FEGU	18X	Je ci-dessous. 22X		26X		30X	
			1						
	12X	16X	2	0X	24X	1	28X		32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

Library of the Public Archives of Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ▼ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:

L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

La bibliothèque des Archives publiques du Canada

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▼ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

1	2	3

1	
2	
3	

1	2	3
4	5	6

ata

ils

du difier ine

age .

elur**e**, à

2X



#### THE

### Interest of the Merchants

AND

Manufacturers of Great Britain,

IN THE

PRESENT CONTEST

WITH THE

COLONIES,

STATED and CONSIDERED.



LONDON:

Printed for T. CADELL, in the Strand.
M,DCC,LXXIV.

[Price 1s.]

### 70 000

## 

1 \* "

to the first of the second of

3 73 4 4 70 1

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

77.

100

tain and her Colonies, being now arrived at a height that calls for fome speedy decision, and this contest having been represented as only a dispute between the administration and the colonies, the following short state of the case is submitted to the consideration of every candid Englishman; from which it will appear, how far the merchants and traders in this country are interested in it, and on which side they ought to wish the decision to fall.

It is admitted on the part of Great-Britain, that the Colonies are part of the dominions of the Crown, that the inhabitants are the subjects of the Crown, and intitled, by birth, to all the rights and franchises of Englishmen, born within the island of Great Britain; and in confequence every native of the Colonies is eligible to and many of them actually enjoy offices and employments in the flate. and feats in parliament, and may be the King's chief ministers in Great Britain. In all foreign countries, they have the fame protection with the King's English subjects, and enjoy the fame advantages of treaties and alliances. Their persons and properties are equally protected by the laws of England, and they may, equally with the natives of Great Britain, become proprietors, by purchase or inheritance, of any lands within the island of Great Britain.

The possessions of the Crown in America are immensely extensive, and the island of Great Britain, compared with them, appears very inconsiderable. No art or power can enlarge Great Britain, but there is abundant scope in America for making additions, still more extensive, to what the Crown already possesses there.

This most important difference in the circumstances of the two territories

B 2 requires

requires a different plan of policy to be adopted in respect to the culture and improvement of each. But still the personal rights of the inhabitants ought to continue the same; And the prosperity and happiness of the subjects in the Colonies ought to be equally attended to, and promoted by government, as that of the subjects in England, for they are equally the King's subjects and Englishmen.

The lands in America have been granted by the Crown on very cheap terms to the occupiers; and where a country is so very extensive, and the inhabitants few, the lands must continue cheap for many ages, in comparison

parison of the price of lands in Great Britain .---- Should then the occupier of the American lands cultivate the fame products as are cultivated in Great Britain, and have equal liberty to carry them to the fame market, they must presently destroy the commerce and culture of Great Britain, by felling at a less price.--- Now nothing could argue greater folly and wickedness, in any government, than the fuffering the people of the ancient dominions to be destroyed, for the fake of raising a new Empire, and new subjects, in another part of the world .--- Wisdom, justice and policy, therefore, required that the means to be used, to forward the prosperity of

of the new dominions, should be such as not to injure the old; and that, where all parts cannot have the same advantages, compensation should be made, for what is with-held in one way, by the grant of superior advantages in another.

The right to the soil of America is allowed to have been in the Crown of England, antecedent to the settlement of any English subjects there; for the sirst, and all suture adventurers carried with them grants from the Crown, of the lands on which they settled; and all the lands in the Colonies are at this day held by their occupiers, under titles derived from the Crown. The Crown had, therefore, a right to prescribe

C

prescribe conditions to those who obtained those grants; and the grantees were bound, in law and equity, to a performance of those conditions. Moreover, the adventurers in this new country stood in need of the affistance and fuccour of their fellow subjects in England. They were unable to fublist, much less to protect themfelves. The bounty, the confidence, and humanity of individuals in England were freely exercised towards them; and the power of the state, raised and maintained at the sole expence of the people of England, was fully exerted in their behalf. The people of England have, therefore, a right to reap advantage from the fuccess of the adventurers.

Under

Under these two titles, of a right to the foil in the Crown, and a right to compensation in the people of England, let us view the conduct of the Legislature (which comprehends both) towards the Colonies. In respect to the persons of the natives of the Colonies, no diffinction or difference has ever been made. There is not a fingle Act of Parliament, from the first establishment of the Colonies to this day, which makes a distinction between a man born in England and a man born in America. The original equality has been inviolably adhered to. The fame law and rights are for a nativ of America in England, as for an Englishman. And an Englishman is, in America. 

America, fubject to the same law, and claims no other rights than a native there die and the there of the time

The few flows it and the contract of the first the contract of the contract of

O

O

e

)

0

4

3

e

1

The most violent partizan of the Colonies can here then have no ground of complaint; for neither the Crown or the people of England have here made any claim, or fought compensation. ling of a little of the little

The lands of America, and their products, have alone been the objects upon which they have made any demands, and whether they have afferted their claims in an arbitrary, cruel, and unjust manner, as the Colonies fay they have, we shall soon see

that a militare area with the lesion

Lungar a L

The people of England and the American adventurers being fo differently circumstanced, it required no great fagacity to discover that, as there were many commodities which America could fupply on better terms than they could be raised in England, so must it be much more for the Colonies' advantage to take others from England, than attempt to make them themselves. The American lands were cheap, covered with woods, and abounded with native commodities. The first attention of the settlers was necessarily engaged in cutting down the timber, and clearing the ground for culture; for before they had fupplied themselves with provisions, and had

had hands to spare from agriculture, it was impossible they could fet about manufacturing. England, therefore, undertook to fupply them with manufactures, and either purchased herfelf, or found markets for the timber the Colonists cut down upon their lands, or the fifh they caught upon their coasts. It was foon discovered that the tobacco plant was a native of, and flourished in Virginia. It had been also planted in England, and was found to delight in the foil. The Legislature, however, wifely and equitably confidering that England had variety of products, and Virginia had no other to buy her necessaries with. passed an act prohibiting the people of in. C 2 England

England from planting tobacco, and thereby giving the mo opoly of that plant to the Colonies. As the inhabitants increased, and the lands became more cultivated, further and new advantages were thrown in the way of the American Colonies. All foreign markets, as well as Great Britain; were open for their timber and provisions, and the British West India Islands were prohibited from purchasing those commodities from any other than them. And fince England has found itself in danger of wanting a fupply of timber, and it has been judged necessary to confine the export from America to Great Britain and Ireland, full and ample indemnity

has been given to the Colonies for the loss of a choice of markets in Europe, by very large bounties paid out of the revenue of Great Britain, upon the importation of American timber. And as a further encouragement and reward to them for clearing their lands, bounties are given upon the tar and pitch, which are made from their decayed and useless trees; and the very ashes of their lops and branches, are made of value by the late bounty on American pot-ashes. The soil and climate of the Northern Colonies having been found well adapted to the culture of flax and hemp, bounties equal to half the first cost of those commodities have been granted by Parliament, payable ..... out

out of the British revenue, upon their importation into Great Britain. The growth of rice in the Southern Colonies has been greatly encouraged, by prohibiting the importation of that grain into the British dominions from other parts, and allowing it to be tranfported from the Colonies to the foreign territories in America, and even to the fouthern parts of Europe. Indigo has been nurtured in those Colonies by great parliamentary bounties, which have been long paid upon the importation into Great Britain; and of late are allowed to remain, even when it is carried out again to foreign markets. Silk and wine have also been objects of parliamentary munificence;

and will one day probably become confiderable American products under that encouragement.

In which of these instances, it may be demanded, has the Legislature shewn itself partial to the people of England and unjust to the Colonies? or wherein have the Colonies been injured? We hear much of the restraints under which the trade of the Colonies is laid by Acts of Parliament, for the advantage of Great Britain, but the restraints under which the people of Great Britain are laid by Acts of Parliament for the advantage of the Colonies, are carefully kept out of fight; and yet upon a comparison, the one will

will be found full as grievous as the other. For, is it a greater hardship on the Colonies, to be confined in some instances to the markets of Great Britain for the fale of their commodities, than it is on the people of Great Britain to be obliged to buy those commodities from them only? If the Island Colonies are obliged to give the people of Great Britain the pre-emption of their fugar and coffee, is it not a greater hardship on the people of Great Britain to be restrained from purchasing sugar and coffee from other countries, where they could get those commodities much cheaper than the Colonies make them pay for them? Could not our manufacturers have indi-

go much better and cheaper from France and Spain than from Carolina? and yet is there not a duty imposed by Acts of Parliament on French and Spanish indigo, that it may come to our manufacturers at a dearer rate than Carolina indigo, tho' a bounty is also given out of the money of the people of England to the Carolina Planter, to enable him to fell his indigo upon a par with the French and Spanish? But the instance which has already been taken notice of, the Act which prohibits the culture of the tobacco plant in Great Britain or Ireland, is still more in point, and a more striking proof of the justice and impartiality of the fupreme Legislature; for what restraints, let me ask,

are the Colonies laid under, which bear so strong marks of hardship, as the prohibiting the farmers in Great Britain and Ireland from railing, upon their own lands, a product which is become almost a necessary of life to them and their families? And this most extraordinary restraint is laid upon them, for the avowed and fole purpose of giving Virginia and Maryland a monolopy of that commodity, and obliging the people of Great Britain and Ireland to buy all the tobacco they confume from them, at the prices they think fit to sell it for. The annals of no country that ever planted Colonies, can produce fuch an inflance as this of regard and kindness to their Colonies.

nies, and of restraint upon the inhabitants of the Mother Country for their advantage. Nor is there any restraint laid upon the inhabitants of the Colonies in return, which carries with it so great appearance of hardship, although the people of Great Britain and Ireland have, from their regard and affection to the Colonies, submitted to it without a murmur for near a century.

It is true the Legislature, in this as well as in other instances, has had a view to divert the Colonists from manufacturing; but has not that object been pursued by means the most generous and just? Ought the Colonists to com-

D 2

plain

plain that they are diverted from working up their flax or hemp, by getting a better price for it rough, than they could hope to obtain by manufacturing it? Or is it blamable in the Legislature to excite them to the culture of commodities which yield a better profit from their cheap lands, than they could have by employing their labour in manufacturing? But why do they not manufacture? They are not hindered from making any commodity they might think fit for their own use, or erecting any machine for the purpose, except mills for slitting iron. The only reason is, that they find it more their interest to cultivate their lands, and attend the fishery, than to manufacture.

facture. Their interest it is alone which restrains them, and such is the wisdom, the equity, the bounty of that government, they are so impatient of, as to employ no other means to divert them from manufactures, than by giving them greater profits for their labour in other things. This is a point which cannot be too much inculcated. for it ought to be univerfally known and confidered, especially by the trading part of this kingdom. I therefore repeat it, that the only means employed by the Legislature, for diverting the Colonies from manufacturing, is the giving them better prices for their labour in other things: and the Colonies well know this to be the case,

case, and they conduct themselves according to that knowledge; for in every instance where they think they can employ their labour profitably in manufactures, they do it. This the people of England do not know, but they ought to be made acquainted with it. They imagine the inhabitants in the Colonies are prohibited from making any thing for themselves, much more from trading in their own manufactures: whereas the fact is, they are prohibited from making no one thing for their own use, or from exporting any one of their own manufactures; except hats, wool, and woollen goods. And they do make many things, and export several manufactures, to the exclusion

exclusion of English manufactures of the same kinds. The New England people import from the foreign and the British islands, very large quantities of cotton, which they spin and work up with linen yarn into a fluff, like that made in Manchester, with which they clothe themselves and their neighbours. Hats are manufactured in Carolina, Pennsylvania, and in other Colonies. Soap and candles, and all kinds of wood-work, are made in the Northern Colonies, and exported to the Southern. Coaches, chariots, chaifes, and chairs, are also made in the Northern Colonies, and fent down to the Southern. Coach-harness, and many other kinds of leather manufactures.

ere likewise made in the Nothern Colonies, and fent down to the Southern: and large quantities of shoes have lately been exported from thence to the West India islands. Linens are made to a great amount in Pennsylvania; and cordage and other hemp manufactures are carried on in many places with great fuccess: and foundery ware, axes, and other iron tools and utenfils, are also become articles of commerce, with which the Southern Colonies are supplied from the Northern. Thus while the Legislature is paying the money of the people of England in bounties to one part of the American subjects, another is employed in rivalling the people of England

land in several of their most valuable manufactures.

Thus far, at least, the conduct of Great Britain towards the Colonies sannot justly be taxed with oppression, nor the comparative fituation of America deemed unequal and disadvantageous: but we are told by the advocates for American claims, that the profit of all their labours centers here, and that the inhabitants of America are condemned to work for the people of England; let us therefore examine the truth of these two propositions.-If it be true that the inhabitants of America are condemned to work for the people of England, is it not equal-

E

ly true that the people of England are condemned to work for the people in the Colonies? nay, not for their fellow-fubjects there only, but for the flaves of their fellow fubjects! If a planter in Virginia raises tobacco for the English merchant, does not the English manufacturer make him clothing for himself and his negroes in return; and wherein can the one be faid to work for the other's advantage, more than the other does for his? Do any of the Colonies fend their products to England for nothing, or do they take any thing from England in payment which they do not want? Does England fix prices upon their products, and fay, You shall sell them

them to us for fo much; or does she infift upon their buying her commodities at higher prices than her own natives pay, or than she fells them for to other countries? Nothing of all this is pretended to be the case; then pray in what fense is it that the people of the Colonies can be faid to work for the people of England, other than that in which the people of England work for them? The thresher may be faid, it is true, to work for the miller; but does not the miller work also for the thresher? But the profit of all the labour of the Colonies centers in England. If this be true, the confequence will plainly shew it; for no state or fociety of men was ever known

211

to thrive by unprofitable labour. Whence then arises the present wealth and greatness of America, (of which we hear fo much upon other occafions) if England has reaped the fruit? of all the labour of the Colonies? The fettlers, we all know, did not carry great riches with them, and whence could they have acquired them, but from the profits of their labour? But the trade of England, fay they, has been greatly augmented by the Colo-It is by no means clear that the fame increase would not have happened if the Colonies had never existed; for England had many avenues open for her commercial industry. But, without pursuing that consideration,

ation, from what fource did the Colonies derive the ability, and the means. of trading with England? Who paid for the axe and the faw with which they cut down the tree, and made it into boards, to cover their huts at their first landing? or through whose credit have they fince built towns, improved their farms, and erected for themfelves stately houses? Is it not to the English merchants they are indebted for all their opulence? We see a recent instance of this in the Ceded Islands; whilst the English merchants gave them credit, the adventurers were making large strides to wealth and grandeur. The value of lands was every day rifing, plantations were fettling,

fettling, and towns springing out of the woods; but the instant that credit was with-held, the bubble burft, and the airy scene vanished like a dream: diffress and calamity succeeded to opulence and parade, and the highest estimated lands can no longer find purchasers at any price: now, had the English merchants continued to give credit, and make advances for these adventurers, there is no doubt their projects would at length have fucceeded; they would have raised products, and, by industry and good management, acquired fortunes. What then should we have thought of them, or what ought we to have thought of them, if, when they came to make remittances

remittances to the English merchants, they should have complained, that it was hard they should be condemned to work for the people of England; that England reaped all the fruits of their labour and industry, and that it was the highest cruelty and injustice to oblige them to send their products to England, that the English merchants might gain a commission on the sale of them?

The Northern Colonies, it is true, have not had fuch ample credit with the English merchants as the Islands, but the circumstances under which the planters in both made their settlements, are not so dissimilar as to ren-

der what has been stated respecting the one, inapplicable to the other. The great amount of their debt to the English merchants, is a full proof that it was upon the stock of the people of England they have hitherto subsisted.

estini i moralizaren izili ilaina

The merchants in the Colonies, no more than the planters in the continent, are wealthy men. They buy their goods in England, upon nine months credit at least; the planter is supplied by them, throughout the year, upon the credit of his crop at the end of it. The planter has his house to build, or improvements to make, or new land to clear and take in, all which requires ready

ready money, and therefore, when his first crop comes, he must fell it for cash, and cannot pay the merchant any thing towards the reduction of his debt that year. The acquisition of the next year's crop requires a fresh advance; hence the planter becomes indebted to the merchant for two years' fupply before he makes him any payment; and as it very feldom happens that at the end of the second year he pays the expence of one, he goes on increasing his debt, but at the same time increasing his estate in a much greater proportion; and all this time the English merchant, who supports the whole, is without any returns.

Thus

Thus it is that England reaps the advantage of all the toil and labour of the Colonies. She pays for the purchase of the land, for the labour employed in clearing it, for the maintaining the stock necessary for its cultivation; her return is a commission upon the sale of the produce, with a moderate interest, not very well paid, upon the capital advanced, while all the benefit of the increased value belongs solely to the Americans.

The truth of what has been advanced will be still more evident from a comparison of the state of the Colonies of other nations with our own. We have seen the slow progress the French made

made in Canada the many years they had it; and the large strides it is making to wealth and importance fince it became a British colony. Grenada too has flourished in a still greater degree, and the same cause has wrought the happy change in the circumstances of both, which is no other than the fuperior credit given to the planters by the English merchants, to what they had from the French merchants. Now if we inquire into the cause of this unbounded confidence and credit given by the English merchants to the Colonies, from which the Colonies have reaped so great advantage, it will come out to be the security which they have for their property by the operation

F 2

of the laws of England in the Colonies; they give no fuch credit to the fubjects of other states, either in Europe or America; and yet there are countries in which they might lay out their money to greater profit than in the British Colonies; but in fóreign countries they cannot be certain of a legal fecurity for their property, or a fair and effectual means of recovering it; whereas in the British Colonies they know the laws of England follow their property, and secures it for them in the deepest recesses of the woods. Take from them that security, and there is an end of their confidence, and confequently an effectual check to the prosperity of the Colonies. And indeed

indeed good reason it should be so, for there is no want of evidence to shew how willing the Colonies are to avail themselves of Acts of their own Affemblies to injure their British creditors; witness the attempts in Jamaica and Virginia to make the lands and negroes freehold, and not liable to the payment of book debts; so that a Planter might buy lands and negroes on English credit, and leave them to his children, without paying a shilling to the English merchant, with whose money he bought them; and witness also a late Act of the Assembly of Grenada, postponing the payments due to their English creditors for eighteen months. These and such like practices

in

in the Colonies, gave occasion to the act of Parliament the 5th of George the Second, for fubjecting lands and negroes in the Colonies to the payment of English book debts, which may truly be called the Palladium of Colony credit, and the English merchants' grand fecurity; and yet this: Act of Parliament is one of those which are now complained of by the Colonies, and the British merchants are modefuly defired to apply to Parliament for its repeal, and thus ruin their trade and fortunes with their own hands\*. But indeed a repeal of this or any

<sup>\*</sup> The following petition of several merchants of London to the King in the year 1732, and the report of the Lords of Trade thereupon, will

any other Act, would not be necessary to destroy their security, if the Colonies attain

will shew the necessity of the interference of Parliament in the British merchants' behalf, and the great ground there was for passing the Act of that year, for the merchants' security, which the Colonies now want to set aside.

## " Sheweth,

That the merchants trading to the said Colonies and Plantations have great sums of money due to them from the inhabitants, and, as the laws now stand in some of the Colonies and Plantations, your Majesty's subjects residing in Great Eritain are left without any remedy for the recovery of their just debts, or have such remedy only as is very partial and precarious; whereby they are like to be considerable sufferers in their property, and are greatly discouraged in their trade to smerica:

That in several of the said Colonies and Plantations greater and higher duties and impositions attain their avowed and main object, the fetting aside the authority of Parliament;

are laid on the ships and goods belonging to your Petitioners, and other persons residing in this kingdom, than are laid on the goods and ships of persons inhabiting the said Colonies and Plantar to the great discouragement of Great Britain:

Wherefore your Petitioners most humbly beseech your Majesty, that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the premises into your royal consideration, and give your Petitioners such relief as to your Majesty, in your great wisdom, shall feem meet."

This petition having been referred to the Lords of Trade, their Lordships, in their report thereon, take notice,

"That the difficulty attending the execution of the law, after a verdict hath been obtained in favour of the plaintiff, confifts in a privilege claimed by some of the Colonies, particularly that of Jamaica, ment; for if it be once admitted, that Parliament has no authority to make laws to bind the Colonies, all its Acts instantly become waste-paper, and the

Jamaica, to exempt their houses, lands and tenements, and in some places, their negroes also, from being extended for debt; but we conceive it to be highly reasonable, that all lands, tenements, hereditaments, and negroes, throughout the several Colonies and Plantations, should be made liable to the payment of just debts and demands.

"These two (alluding to another matter mentioned by their Lordships also) last mentioned grievances have been more than once recommended to the Governors of Virginia and Jamaica for redress. But the assemblies of those Colonies could never be induced to divest themselves of these privileges by any act of their own; and therefore, in our humble opinion, those points may be very proper objects for a Parliament's consideration in Great Britain, as they are of importance to your Majesty's subjects trading to America."

merchants can no longer apply to Parliament to give them redress against any unjust proceedings of an American Assembly. Whoever, therefore, goes about to overthrow the authority of Acts of Parliament in the Colonies, ought to be considered as the assassins of the British merchants' security, and, by destroying their consider the in the Colonies, force them to with-hold their credit, and thereby do the greatest injury to the Colonies themselves.

The right of the Parliament to impose taxes, or the expediency of exercising it over the Colonies, is now no longer the subject of dispute. All the late declarations of the Colonies deny, in express terms, the authority of the Legis-

Legislature to bind them in any case whatsoever. This is the avowed purpose of their opposition to the execution of Acts of Parliament, and of their obstruction of the commerce of the people of England.

I acquit them of any intention of feparating from Great Britain; for I believe them too wife to renounce all the advantages of being treated as Englishmen in Great Britain and throughout the world; of enjoying the protection of her fleet and armies equally with the people of England; and at the same time, neither contributing revenue to their support, or dealing with her for any thing which G 2 they

they can buy cheaper, or fell dearer elsewhere. They would no doubt like to continue to have the monopoly of fupplying the British West India Mands with lumber and provisions; to have the monopoly of supplying Great Britain and Ireland with tobacco; to receive large bounties upon other of their products out of the revenue of England; to have the advantage of fishing on the English fishing banks of Newfoundland; and in the gulph and river of the English conquered Colony of Quebec, provided they continued to pay no revenue, were subject to no restraints upon their trade, but might carry their commodities wherever they thought fit, import all forts of goods from

from all countries, and lay out their money wherever they found they could buy cheapest. This is all very natural, and no one can blame the Colonies' for feeting what is to evidently for their own interest; but that they should expect the people of England, the trading part especially, to countenance them in their pursuits of a plan fo manifestly ruinous to them, is indeed such a proof of their contempt for our understandings as no people even gave before. They plainly tell the British merchants, "Gentlemen, we " have now made fortunes out of your " capital, and we find that the people " in England pay fuch heavy taxes " for the payment of the interest of a e and " debt.

"debt, which they contracted in our "defence; and for the maintenance " of a military force, of which we en-" joy the protection; that some of their "manufactures come higher charged "tous, than we can get the like for from "Holland or France: we also find, that "from the same cause they cannot af-. "ford to give as high prices for some " of our commodities, as we can fell "them for in other countries. Now " there are certain Acts of Parliament, "which oblige us to come to you for "what we want; and to carry to you "many of our commodities in pay-"ment, we desire therefore that you "will affift us in our endeavours to " fet aside the authority of these laws, " that

"that we may trade where we will: " and come no more to you but when "we cannot do fo well elfewhere. "There is another thing too which we " want you join to us in; we are pre-" vented by an Act of Parliament from " entailing our estates to the prejudice " of our English creditors; we now " owe them about four millions, and " if this Act was out of our way, we " could make all our families rich at " once, by purchasing lands, and build-"ing houses, with this money, and " fettling them upon our children, in-" flead of paying our English credi-" tors: but as we are afraid the Par-" liament might perceive our drift, in "applying for repeals of these laws. "or

" or if they even repealed them now, " they might hereafter re-enact them, " or others of a like nature, which " would defeat our purpose of rising " upon the ruins of England; we. "have taken up a resolution of get-" ting rid of all these acts at once, and " at the fame time making ourseives, " secure against all future acts that " might be made to our prejudice, or. " for your benefit. This resolution is no "other than to deny the authority of "the Legislature to make any Acts. "whatever to bind us. In this our. " grand purpose, we hope you will do " all you can by petitioning, instruct-"ing, and remonstrating in our be-"half; for if you do not join us in " de roying 70 33

"destroying yourselves, we tell you once for all, that we will neither buy goods of you, nor pay you for those we have already bought, for we are determined to carry our point by one means or another."

I appeal to the understandings of my countrymen whether this is an exaggerated representation of the Colony claims, as set forth and stated in their several pamphlets, and the Resolutions of their public Assemblies. And I think I need not use any further arguments to convince the merchants and manufacturers of Great Britain, how fatal to their interests the success of the Colonies in their designs must be. The continuance of their trade

H

to the Colonies, clearly and entirely depends upon the laws of England having authority there. It is their operation which binds the commerce of the Colonies to this country. It is their operation which gives fecurity to the property of the trader fent thither. Give up the authority of Parliament and there is an end to your trade, and a total loss of your property. But if that authority is supported and maintained, the trade of the Colonies must remain to Great Britain, and the property you intrust them with will remain secure, protected by acts of Parliament made in your behalf.

THEEND.

fire and to post to the

