

stitution, as Monarchy or Aristocracy, can exist when the People are excluded from a Share in the executing, and a Share in the making of Laws; but that is *not* the present Case; and, though I may not be able to answer a specious Objection, formed upon general Principles, I am not obliged to adopt it, 'till I am convinced of its Solidity.

A little Examination will find how unfair and deceptive the Representation is, that the Colonies in *North-America*, “Two Millions of *British* Subjects, an opulent, thriving and commercial People, contribute to the national Expence, no more than 7 or 800*l. per Annum* by Taxes raised *there* ;” for tho’ it should be acknowledged (which I neither admit nor deny, because I don’t know, nor have an Opportunity of coming at the Fact) that the Impositions upon the Inhabitants of the Colonies do not raise *there*, a greater Sum than hath been stated, it doth not follow that, “the Inhabitants of the Colonies are indulged at the Expence of *Great-Britain*, and that the neediest *British* Cottager, who out of his scanty Pittance hardly earned, pays the high Duties of Customs and Excise in the Price of his Consumptions, has Reason to complain,” if immense Sums are raised upon the Inhabitants of the Colonies *elsewhere*.

By such Artifices and Sophistry, is Ignorance misled, Credulity deceived, and Prejudices excited. Thus Oppression gains the Credit of Equity, Cruelty passes for Moderation, and Tyranny for Justice, and the Man who deserves—Reproach, is celebrated by Adulation, and applauded by Delusion for his Wisdom and patriotic Virtues.

The Truth is, that a vast Revenue arises to the *British* Nation from Taxes paid by the Colonies in *GREAT-BRITAIN*, and even *the most ignorant British Cottager*, not imposed upon by infamous Misrepresentation, must perceive, that it is of no Consequence to his Ease and Relief, whether the Duties raised upon *America* are paid *there*, and thence afterwards remitted to *Great-Britain*, or paid *at first* upon the produce of the Colonies in *Great-Britain*.

In the Article of Tobacco, for Instance, the Planter pays a Tax upon that Produce of his Land and Labour consumed in *Great-Britain*, more than Six Times the clear Sum received by Him for it, besides the Expences of Freight, Commission and other Charges, and double Freight, Commission and Charges upon the Tobacco re-exported, by which the *British* Merchants, Mariners and other *British* Subjects, are supported—a Tax, at least, equal to what is paid by any Farmer of *Great-Britain*, possessed of the same De-
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