

Great-Britain; should it drive the *British Mechanics and Manufacturers* to *America*, by depriving Them of their best Customers at Home, and force the Colonies upon Manufactures, they are disabled from purchasing, other Topics of Eulogy must be discovered by his ingenious Encomiasts, than his Wisdom or his political Achievements. Upon such an Event, an *American* will have very little Reason to exclaim

O! me infelicem, qui nunc demum intelligo.

Ut illa mihi profuerint quæ despexeram,

Et illa, quæ laudaram, quantum Luētus habuerint!

The Right of Exemption from all Taxes *without their Consent*, the Colonies claim as *British Subjects*. They derive this Right from the Common Law, which their Charters have declared and confirmed, and They conceive that when stripped of this Right, whether by Prerogative or by any other Power, they are at the same Time deprived of every Privilege distinguishing Free-Men from Slaves.

On the other Hand, They acknowledge Themselves to be subordinate to the Mother Country, and that the Authority vested in the supreme Council of the Nation, may be justly exercised to support and preserve that Subordination.

Great and just Encomiums have been bestow'd upon the Constitution of *England*, and their Representative is deservedly the Favourite of the Inhabitants in *Britain*. But it is not because the supreme Council is called *Parliament*, that They boast of their Constitution of Government; for there is no particular magical Influence from the Combination of the Letters which form the Word; it is because They have a Share in that Council, that They appoint the Members who constitute one Branch of it, whose Duty and Interest it is to consult their Benefit, and to assert their Rights, and who are vested with an Authority, to prevent any Measures taking Effect dangerous to their Liberties, or injurious to their Properties.

But the Inhabitants in the Colonies have no Share in this great Council. None of the Members of it are, or can be of their Appointment, or in any Respect dependant upon Them. There is no immediate Connection, on the Contrary, there may be an Opposition of Interest; how puerile then is the Declamation, " what will become of the Colonies Birthright, and the glorious Securities which their Forefathers handed down to Them, if the Authority of the *British Parliament* to impose Taxes upon Them should be given up? To deny the Authority of the *British Legislature*, is to sur-
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