

Amendment was proposed by M^r Grenville & afterwards withdrawn. The Expression of "Important Occurencys" in the Speech was Objected to as too Weak & Inadequate What said they would have been thought in 1745 of any Person who had called the then Rebellion an Important matter only; M^r Charles Townshend (tho' otherwise against the motion) Said that Sooner than make our Collonies our Allies he wo^d wish to see them returned to their Primitive Desarts. An Instance having been called for to Shew the Legislature of Great Britain had ever raised Money upon the Colonies the Act in Queen Anns time for Establishing the Post Office was mentioned, to which it was answered that that was a Measure of Accommodation only & not of Burthen. It was further said that tho' Great Britain had long Arms yet 3000 miles was a long way to extend them.

By what I can recollect there Seems a Disposition in Governm^t to Relax & Qualify the Law at least, attended probably with an Indemnity and Oblivion for what is past, Whether to repeal it totally seems not at present Settled & the Law Lords Appear averse to it tho' that is understood to be the opinion of M^r Pitt who is expected in Town after the recess to throw his Weight into the ministerial Scale unless he should alter his mind in consequence of Lord George Sacville's Promotion & destination to take the Lead which is thought not to be very agreeable to him Delay Seems desired by the Ministry in hopes it may Produce proper representations from the Colonys and perhaps Addresses from our own people w^{ch} may Countenance a Departure from the Law whilst the other Party are pressing hasty resolves with a View of Involving them in difficulties or Plunging them in Engagements which they may not so well know how to Extricate themselves from and perhaps not without hopes of Seeing the Law soon Accepted by some of the Colonies. The Law is the Theme and the Colonies are the Objects held forth to Publick View whilst those who look ever so little behind the Curtain may fancy they discover different Views in the Contending Partys, Obliquely Glancing Censure upon each other. The Advocates for the Amendment, or Repeal of the Law, to Cast an Odium upon the Framers of it; the Partisans of the Law to Impute its Inefficacy and the Exceptions taken to it to a Wilful neglect in Government to Crush the opposition in its Infancy.

It is this day said, that M^r Pitt, Determined neither to Act with the Minden Generall, nor yet with the Rochfort Second in Command, will take a hasty Step into the other House, but with the same resolution to oppose the Law. Both Houses are now Adjourned to 14th January, when the Law will receive a very Serious Discussion, and I hope a Prosperous