

The Statute of the 9.<sup>th</sup> of Ann erecting a Post Office in the Colonies has been generally adduced & acknowledg'd the strongest Precedent for the late Stamp Act but besides the Answers commonly given it cannot be said with Propriety to have been executed for altho' frequent Breaches have been notoriously made of the Regulations & Prohibitions of that Act there never has been a single Instance within the Province nor probably in any other Colony of even a Prosecution much less a Recovery for any Contravention of that Act so that any Argument from the Colonists Acquiescence under an Act that has not been executed is thought to be of very little Weight

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 52  
Dec. 6

The Charter of this Province is apprehended to amount to a strong Declaration and Promise that its Inhabitants should not by their Removal be stript of the Rights of Englishmen and the Royal Faith stands thereby engaged for our quiet Enjoyment of those Rights the British Colonists no doubt as British Subjects are entitled to those Rights independent of the Charters of the particular Colonies and 'tis fairly to be presumed That was the Sense of the whole British Legislature in his late Majesty's Reign when the Act passed for Naturalization of such foreign Protestants and others therein mentioned as are settled or shall settle in any of his Mātys Colonies in America from the Motives assigned in the Preamble to fforeigners to settle in the plantations—It is useless to remark that if the Colonists have not forfeited the Rights they brought over as Englishmen and British Subjects that they are not to be taxed but with their own Consent and are Entitled to Tryal by Juries

The Memorial herewith sent you was designed it is said to have been presented in the last Session of Parliament had it got Home Time enough to have been delivered in with Propriety and is thought by this House to contain a true Account of Facts and judicious Conclusions in Reasoning but the Circumstances of this Province in some Things differ from those of New York Our Staple as well as that of Virginia is Tobacco the Preparation for and Cultivation and Management of which constantly employ those who raise it so that the Planter has no Time to share about Manufactories or other Matters the Produce of his Labour (now Tobo is of so little Value) will scarce cloath his Family which is almost individually done in British Manufactories and was Tobo only relied on in this province and Virginia the Disproportion between the Produce and Consumption of that Article would soon incapacitate these Colonies from Cloathing their Inhitants this necessarily forms our Connection with the Northen Colonies who purchase our Grain Lumber and other superfluous produce part of the Payment for which is in foreign Specie almost as soon remitted to Great Britain as recēd by us towards discharging a continually encreasing Debt contracted by Woollens and its other Manufactures so that sho.<sup>d</sup> the Trade of the Colonies even that which we have no immediate Hand in be con-