

which was the King's Speech, and that Mr. PITT was going to speak twice in the same Debate, although the House was not in a Committee. Mr. George Onslow answered, that they were both in order, as nothing had been said but what was fairly deducible from his Majesty's Speech, and appealed to the Speaker.—The Speaker decided in Mr. Onslow's Favour. Mr. PITT said, "I do not apprehend I am speaking twice. I did expressly reserve a Part of my Subject, in order to save the Time of the House, but I am compelled to proceed in it. I do not speak twice, I only finish what I had designedly left imperfect; but if the House is of a different Opinion, far be it from me to indulge a Wish of transgressing against Order. I am content, if it be your Pleasure, to be silent."

Here he paused, the House resounded with GO ON, GO ON. He proceeded.

"GENTLEMEN, SIR, I have been charged with giving Birth to Sedition in America. They have spoke their Sentiments with Freedom against this unhappy Act. That Freedom has become their Crime. Sorry I am to hear the Liberty of Speech in this House imputed as a Crime; but the Imputation shall not discourage me; it is a Liberty I mean to exercise; no Gentleman ought to be afraid of exercising it: It is Liberty, by which the Gentleman who calumniates it, might himself have profited. He ought to have desisted from his Project. The Gentleman tells us, America is obstinate, America is almost in open Rebellion. I rejoice that America has resisted. Three Millions of People, so dead to all the Feelings of Liberty, as voluntarily to consent to be Slaves, would have been fit Instruments to make Slaves of the Rest. I came not here armed at all Points with Law Cases and Acts of Parliament, with the Statute Book doubled down in Dogs-Ears, to defend the Cause of Liberty; if I had, I would myself have cited the two Cases of *Chester* and *Durham*; I would have cited them to have shewn, that even, under arbitrary Reigns, Parliaments were ashamed of taxing a People without their Consent, and allowed them Representatives. Why did the Gentleman confine himself to *Chester* and *Durham*? He might have taken a higher Example in *Wales*. *Wales* that never was taxed by Parliament until it was incorporated. I would not debate a particular Point of Law with the Gentleman; I know his Abilities; I have been obliged to his diligent Researches; but for the Defence of Liberty, on a general Principle, upon a constitutional Principle, it is a Ground on which I stand firm, a Ground on which I dare to meet any Man. The Gentleman tells us of many who are taxed, and are not represented; the *India* Company, Merchants, Stockholders, Manufactories: Surely many of these are represented in other Capacities, as Owners of Lands, or Freeman of Boroughs. It is a Misfortune that more are not actually represented; but they are all Inhabitants; and, as such, are virtually represented. Many have it in their Option to be actually represented; they have Connections with those that elect, and they have Influence over them. The Gentleman mentioned the Stockholders, I hope he does not reckon the Debts of the Nation as Part of the national State.

"Since the Accession of King *William*, Ministers, some of great, others of more moderate Abilities, have taken the Lead in Government." He went through the List of them, bringing it down till he came to himself, giving a short Sketch of the Characters of each. "None of these (he went on) ever dreamed of robbing the Colonies of their Constitutional Rights; it was reserved to mark the Era of the late Administration, not that there were wanting some, when I had the Honour to serve his Majesty, to propose to me to bring my Fingers with an American STAMP-ACT. With the Enemy at their Backs, with our Bayonets at their Breasts, in the Day of their Distress, perhaps the Americans would have submitted to the Imposition; but it would have been taking an ungenerous and unjust Advantage.

"The Gentleman boasts of his Bounties to America, and those Bounties intended finally for the Benefits of this Kingdom. If they are, where is his peculiar Merit to America? If they are not, he has misapplied the national Treasure. I am no Courtier of America, I stand up for this Kingdom. I maintain that Parliament has a Right to bind, to restrain America. Our legislative Power over the Colonies is Sovereign and Supreme. If it ceases to be Sovereign and Supreme, I would advise every Gentleman to sell his Lands, if he can, and embark for that Country. When two Countries are connected together alike *England* and

her Colonies, without being incorporated, the one must necessarily govern. The Greater must rule the Lesser, so rule it, as not to contradict the fundamental Principles common to both. The Gentleman understands not the Difference between internal Taxes and external, I cannot help it. But there is a plain Distinction between Taxes levied for the Purposes of raising a Revenue, and Duties imposed for the Regulation of Trade for the Accommodation of the Subject, although in the Consequences some Revenue might immediately arise from the latter. The Gentleman asks When were the Colonies Emancipated, I desire to know When they were made Slaves? But I dwell not upon Words.—While I had the Honour of serving his Majesty, I availed myself of the Means of Information which I derived from my Office, I speak therefore from Knowledge, my Materials were good, I was at Pains to collect, to digest, to consider them, and I will be bold to affirm, that the Profits to *Great-Britain* from the Trade of the Colonies through all its Branches, is *Two Millions* a Year, this is the Fund that carried you triumphantly through the last War. Three Score Years ago, Estates that were at *Two Thousand Pounds* a Year Rent, are now at *Three Thousand*. Those Estates then sold from *Fifteen* to *Eighteen Years* purchase, the same may now be sold at *Thirty*, you owe this to America. This is the Price America pays you for her Protection. And shall a miserable Financier come with a Boat that he can cunningly filch a Pepper Corn into the Exchequer, to the loss of Millions to the Nation.

"I dare not say how much higher these Profits may be augmented, but omitting the immense Increase of People by natural Population, in the Northern Colonies, and the Emigration from every Part of Europe, I am convinced the whole commercial System of America may be altered to Advantage, you have prohibited where you ought to have encouraged, you have encouraged where you ought to have prohibited, improper Restraints have been laid upon the Continent, in favour of the Islands, you have but two Nations to Trade with in America,—would you had *Twenty*. Let Acts of Parliament in Consequence of Treaties remain, but let not an English Minister become a Custom-House Officer for Spain, for any foreign Power! Much is wrong, much may be amended for the general Good of the Whole.—Does the Gentleman complain he has been misrepresented in the Public Prints? It is a common Misfortune. In the Spanish Affair in the last War, I was abused in all the News-Papers for having advised his Majesty to violate the Laws of Nations with Regard to Spain, the Abuse was industriously circulated even in Hand Bills. If Administration did not propagate the Abuse, Administration never contradicted it. I will not say what Advice I did give to the King, my Advice is in Writing, signed by myself, is in Possession of the Crown, but I will say what Advice I did not give to the King. I did not advise the King to violate any of the Laws of Nations; as to the Report of the Gentleman's preventing in some Way the Trade for Bullion with the Spaniards, it was spoke of so confidently that I own I am one of those who did believe it to be true.

"The Gentleman must not wonder he was not contradicted when, as the Minister, he asserted the Rights of Parliament to tax Americans. I know not how it is, but there is a Modesty in this House, that does not chuse to contradict a Minister; I wish Gentlemen would get the better of that Modesty; if they do not, perhaps the collective Body may begin to abate of its Respect for the Representative. Lord Bacon has told me, that a great Question would not fail of being agitated at one Time or another; I was willing to agitate that of the German War, my German War, as they called it, at the proper Season. Every Session I called out, Has any Body any Objections to the German War? No Body would object to it, one Gentleman only excepted, since removed into the Upper House, by Succession to an antient Barony (meaning Lord *Dispenfer*, formerly Sir *Francis Dashwood*) he told me he did not like my German War; I honour the Man for it, and was sorry when he was turned out of his Post.

"A good deal has been said, without Doors, of the Power, of the Strength of the Colonies; it is a Topic which ought to be cautiously handled. In a good, on a sound Bottom, the Force of this Country can crush America to Atoms. I know the Value of your Troops; I know the Skill of your Officers. There is not a Company of Foot that served in America, out of which you may not pick a Man of sufficient Knowledge and Experi-

ente, to make a Governor of a Colony there. But on this Ground, on the STAMP-ACT, when so many will think it a crying Injustice, I am one who will lift up my Hand against it. In such a Cause your Success may be hazardous. America, if SHE fell, would fall like a strong Man, would embrace the Pillars of State, and pull down the Constitution along with her. Is this your boasted Peace? Not to sheath the Sword in the Scabbard, but to sheath it in the Bowels of your Countrymen! Will you quarrel with yourselves, now the whole House of Bourbon is united against you? While France disturbs your Fisheries at *Newfoundland*, embarrasses your Slave Trade to Africa, and withholds from your Subjects in Canada their Property stipulated by Treaty? While the Ranom for the *Manillas* is denied from Spain, and its gallant Conqueror basely traduced, as a mean Plunderer; a Gentleman, (meaning Colonel *Drazer*) whose noble and generous Spirit would do Honour to the proudest Grandee of her Country? Say the Americans have not acted in all Things with Prudence and Temper; they have been wronged; they have been driven to Madness by Injustice. Will you now punish them for the Madness you have occasioned? Rather let Prudence and Temper come first from this Side; I will undertake for America, that she will follow the Example. There are two Lines in a Ballad of *Priar's*, so applicable to you and your Colonies, I cannot help repeating them;

To her Faults a little blind,

To her Virtues very kind.

"Upon the whole, I will beg Leave to tell the House what is really my Opinion; it is, that the STAMP-ACT be repealed absolutely, totally, and immediately; that the Reason for the Repeal be assigned, because it was founded upon an erroneous Principle. At the same Time, let the sovereign Authority of this Country over the Colonies be asserted, in as strong Terms as can be devised; be made to extend to every Point of Legislation whatever, that we may bind their Trade, confine their Manufactures, and exercise every Power whatever, except that of taking their Money out of their Pockets without their Consent."

Mr. *Dowdeswell*, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, rose up after Mr. PITT. He said, "It could not be expected he should add any Thing to the Subject on which Mr. PITT had spoken; it could not now admit a Doubt but that the STAMP-ACT must be repealed." He went on to shew, that Mr. *Grenville* had not hurt the Spanish Trade, by giving Orders and Instructions, but by forbearing to give them, particularly with respect to Bullion, which was not prohibited by any Law.

Mr. *Beckford* was the last Speaker of any Weight. He asserted to Mr. *Grenville*, "That he had denied the Right of Parliament to send internal Taxes to America, he had only allowed the Power of Parliament to be omnipotent." He concluded with expressing his perfect Agreement in Sentiments with his Right Honourable Friend (Mr. PITT) excepting in one Particular, the Restraints on the Continent, in Favour of the Islands, in which he was sure he could convince him he was mistaken.

I fear I have tired your Patience, Sir, with this long and circumstantial Account. I will only add one Observation. You have seen when a large Company have been made to feel, all together, an electrical Shock; such was the Effect on the whole House of Commons, and the Galleries, when Mr. PITT pronounced, "I REJOICE THAT AMERICA HAS RESISTED!"

ANNAPOLIS, May 8.

Monday last the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of this Province were to have convened here; but either from the unfavourableness of the Winds, or Indisposition of some of the Gentlemen, or their Families, there are not yet come to Town quite Members enough to compose a Lower House; but they will certainly meet To-morrow Morning.

Last Thursday arrived from London, in *Patazot* River, the Ship *Polly*, Capt. *John Kilty*, from Messrs. *Perkins, Brown, and Buchanan*, but had a long Passage. Capt. *Kilty* had his Cargo on board, and was ready for Sailing on the 4th of February, but was detain'd by his Owners to the 22^d in order to bring the Determination of the Commons with regard to the Stamp-Act, which was on the 21st, when the Vote for the Repeal was carried by a Majority of 108, as the Public have already been informed. Capt. *Kilty* strove

to be the First in the Country w...
ws, but Calms and contrary Wind...
says it was thought the Repeal...
in so Manner of Difficulty in t...
rds.

The Northern Papers are full of...
ing to this important Affair;...
Room to insert them. The...
of the 6th of March, and...
Members of the House of C...
total Repeal not in the least...
Gazette Extraordinary of this Da...
just now, Thursday P. M. sever...
me to Town, and bring Advice...
arrived in Virginia from Glasg...
of the 13th of March giving...
the Repeal having Passed all the...
Legislature. The following is...
Letter from Mr. *Hodge* in Virginia...
of *Piscataway*, dated *Williamsburg*...
the Truth of which we think may...
n: "We have certain Account...
from *Glasgow*, which fail'd the...
that the Stamp-Act is totally...
ing Pass'd both Houses, and h...
Assent."

To be SOLD at PUBLIC V...
ready Current Money, on Tuesday...
in the Forenoon, at the House of...
holme, Esq; near Severn Ferry,
of the Personal Estate of *Edm...*
deceased,

CONSISTING of Kitchen...
Kinds, Beds, Bedding, W...
Linen, Chairs, Tables, a hand...
Settee, Wash Stand and Looking...
Presses, Horses, a Curricule and H...
Silver hilted Sword, a Mourning...
Pairs of new Shoes lately import...
and never worn, a good Quantity...
Barrels of Corn in Ears, his res...
Madeira Wine, and Cane Spirit, a...
Spoons, China Dishes, Mugs, C...
Bowls, Knives and Forks, Can...
Tumblers, Decanters, and a Va...
ticles. His Books will be sold...
of the adjoined Provincial Coun...
tice will be given in this Paper...
Time, it is hoped, that those...
have borrowed any of them, wi...
to return them.

Such Papers as belong to hi...
delivered to them when called for.

All those who have any De...
Estate, are desired to send in...
those who are indebted to him...
pay off what they owe, as foot...
the Debts due from the Estate...

It is expected that all the Sher...
of Fees belonging to him, in...
Collection, will make their Retu...
at the Time prescribed by the...
U.

N. B. The Sale to begin a...
the Morning.

Marlborough...
To be SOLD at Frederickbu...
the Fair there, the Day aft...
there, being on the Third D...

ABOUT Twenty very val...
consisting of House Se...
some Tradefmen, and Labour...
Three Children; for Cash, o...
change. Credit will be given...
till April the Tenth next; an...
be discounted for immediate...
warrant an undoubted Title...
be raised by designing Peopl...
Sale, the greatest Part of the...
merly Mortgaged by Capt. *Th...*
ham Lightfoot, Esq;

Jeppa...
AS I am confined in B...
for several Sums of...
not able to pay, but have...
fer'd my Creditors all my E...
Proportion amongst them, if...
me, but they not complying...
to inform all concern'd, tha...
the next Session of Assembl...
am before Released by a...
otherwise.