

internal Parliamentary Taxations, claimed by the Colonies, apply to the Citizens of *London*?

The Power described in the Provincial Charters is to make Laws, and in the Exercise of that Power, the Colonies are bounded by no other Limitations than what result from their Subordination to, and Dependance upon *Great-Britain*. The Term *Bye-Laws* is as novel, and improper, when applied to the *Assemblies*, as the Expression *Acts of Assembly* would be, if applied to the *Parliament of Great-Britain*, and it is as absurd and insensible, to call a Colony a common Corporation, because not an independant Kingdom, and the Powers of each to make Laws and Bye Laws, are limited, tho' not comparable in their Extent, and the Variety of their Objects, as it would be to call Lake *Eric*, a *Duck-pond*, because not the Atlantic Ocean.

Should the Analogy between the *Colonies* and *Corporations* be even admitted for a Moment, in order to see what would be the Consequence of the *Postulatum*, it would only amount to this, The *Colonies* are vested with as compleat Authority to all Intents and Purposes to Tax themselves, as any *English Corporation* is to make a Bye-Law, in any imaginable Instance for any local Purpose whatever, and the *Parliament* doth not make Laws for *Corporations* upon Subjects, in every Respect proper for *Bye-Laws*.

But I don't rest the Matter upon this, or any other Circumstance, however considerable, to prove the Impropriety of a Taxation by the *British Parliament*. I rely upon the Fact, that not one Inhabitant in any Colony is, or can be *actually* or *virtually* represented by the *British House of Commons*, and therefore, that the Stamp Duties are severely imposed.

But it has been alledged, that if the Right to *Give and Grant* the Property of the Colonies by an internal Taxation is denied to the House of Commons, the Subordination or Dependance of the Colonies, and the Superintendence of the *British Parliament* can't be consistently establish'd—That any supposed Line of Distinction between the Two Cases, is but “ a whimsical “ Imagination, a chimerical Speculation against Fact and Experience.”—Now, under Favour, I conceive there is more Confidence, than Solidity in this Assertion, and it may be satisfactorily and easily proved, that the Subordination and Dependance of the Colonies may be preserved, and the *supreme Authority* of the Mother-Country be firmly supported, and yet the Principle of Representation, and the Right of the *British House of Commons* flowing from it, to *Give and Grant* the Property of the Commons of *America*, be denied.