

“ render all Claim to a Share in it's Councils, and if this were the Tenor
 “ of their Charters, a Grant more insidious or replete with Mischief, could
 “ not be imagined, a Forfeiture of their Rights would be couched under
 “ the Appearance of Privilege, &c.”

We claim an Exemption from all *Parliamentary* Impositions, that We may enjoy those Securities of our Rights and Properties, which We are entitled to by the Constitution. For those Securities are derived to the Subject from the Principle *that he is not to be taxed without his own Consent*, and an Inhabitant in *America* can give his Consent in no other Manner than in Assembly. It is in the Councils that exist there, and there *only*, that he hath a Share, and whilst He enjoys it, his Rights and Privileges are as well secured as any Elector's in *England*, who hath a Share in the national Councils there; for the Words *Parliament* and *Assembly* are in this Respect, only different Terms to express the same Thing.

But it is argued, that “ if the common Law of *England*, is to be brought,
 “ as justifying a Claim of Exemption in any Subject of *Great-Britain* from a
 “ *Parliamentary* Tax, it will plead against a Tax imposed by a Provincial
 “ Assembly; for as all the Colony Assemblies derive their Authority from
 “ the meer Grant of the Crown only, it might be urged that any Tax im-
 “ posed by Them, is imposed by Authority of the Prerogative of the
 “ Crown, and not by full Consent of Parliament. That if this Right in
 “ the Crown, is acknowledged to exempt the Subject from the Jurisdiction
 “ of Parliament in the Case of Taxation, its Power to dispense with Acts
 “ of Parliament, or to deprive the same Subject of the Benefit of the Com-
 “ mon Law, can't be denied.

One would be inclined to suspect that it is supposed, something else than Reason, may on this Occasion conduce to Persuasion.

The *English* Subjects, who left their *native* Country to settle in the Wilderness of *America*, had the Privileges of *other Englishmen*. They knew their Value, and were desirous of having Them perpetuated to their Posterity. They were aware that, as their Consent whilst They should reside in *America*, could neither be ask'd nor regularly given in the national Legislature, and that if They were to be bound by Laws without Restriction, affecting the Property They should earn by the utmost Hazard and Fatigue, They would lose every other Privilege which They had enjoyed in their native Country, and become meer Tenants at Will dependant upon the Moderation of their Lords and Masters, without any other Security—That