

The Word *Parliament*, having been made use of, the *Letter* of the Declaration is adhered to, and the Consequence drawn, that no *British* Subject can be legally taxed, but by the Authority of the *British Parliament*, against the Spirit and Principle of the Declaration, which was aimed only to check and restrain the *Prerogative*, and to establish the Necessity of obtaining *the Consent* of those on whom Taxes were to be levied. Is not this a new Kind of Logic, to infer from Declarations and Claims, founded upon the necessary and essential Principle of a free Government, that the People ought not to be taxed without their Consent, that therefore the Colonies ought to be taxed by an Authority, in which their Consent is not, nor can be concerned; or, in other Words, to draw an Inference from a Declaration or Claim of Privilege, subversive of the very Principle upon which the Privilege is founded? How awkwardly are the Principles of the Revolution applied by some Men! What Astonishment would the Promoters of that glorious Measure, those Patrons and Friends of Liberty, did They now tread the Stage of this World, express, that a *Word*, by which They meant to assert the Privileges of the Subject, and restrain despotic Power, should be relied upon to demolish the very Principle by which Themselves were animated, and after all their Pains and Hazards to establish the generous Sentiments of Liberty, that those who feel and enjoy the Blessings of their successful Struggles, should not be able to raise a Thought beyond the Ideas affixed to systematic Terms.

It was declared also by the *Bill of Rights*, that the Elections of *Members of Parliament* ought to be free, and the Common Law laid down the same Rule before, which is as applicable to the Election of the Representatives of the Colonies, as of the Commons of *Great-Britain*. But with the Help of the Examiner's Logic, it might be proved from the *Letter* of the *Bill of Rights*, that the Elections *only* of *Members of Parliament* ought to be free; for the Freedom expressed in the *Bill of Rights*, is as much attached to Elections of Members of Parliament, as the Authority to grant Money is to *the British Parliament*, and if the Declaration in the one Case implies a Negative, there is the like Implication in the other. If, moreover, the Common Law, the great Charter, and the *Bill of Rights*, do really, as the Examiner asserts, with one Voice declare, that the Inhabitants of the Colonies ought to be taxed *only* by the *British Parliament*, it is not consistent with that Character of Vigilance, and Jealousy of their Power, commonly ascribed to the *British Parliament*, that, from their first regular Settlement to the Reign of *Geo. III*, the *American Assemblies* should not only have been suffered, without any Animadversion, without one Resolve, or even a single Motion to restrain Them, to encroach upon the Jurisdiction and Authority of