

pressed in a zealous and vigorous \* Industry, in an immediate Use and unabating Application of the Advantages we derive from our Situation—a Resentment which could not fail to produce Effects as beneficial to the Mother-Country as to the Colonies, and which a Regard to her Welfare as well as our own, ought to inspire us with on such an Occasion.

The General Assemblies would not, I suppose, have it in their Power to encourage by Laws, the Prosecution of this beneficial, this necessary Measure; but they might promote it almost as effectually by their Example. I have in my younger Days seen fine Sights, and been captivated by their dazzling Pomp and glittering Splendor; but the Sight of our Representatives, all adorned in compleat Dresses of their own Leather, and Flax, and Wool, manufactured by the Art and Industry of the Inhabitants of *Virginia*, would excite, not the Gaze of Admiration, the Flutter of an agitated Imagination, or the momentary Amusement of a transient Scene, but a calm, solid, heart-felt Delight. Such a Sight would give Me more Pleasure than the most splendid and magnificent Spectacle the most exquisite Taste ever painted, the richest Fancy ever imagined, realized to the View—as much more Pleasure as a good Mind would receive from the Contemplation of Virtue, than of Elegance; of the Spirit of Patriotism, than the Ostentation of Opulence.

Not only, “as a Friend to the Colonies,” but as an Inhabitant having my All at Stake upon their Welfare † I desire an “Exemption from Taxes imposed *without my Consent*, and” I have reflected longer than “a Moment upon the Consequences:” I value it as one of the dearest Privileges I enjoy: I acknowledge Dependance on *Great-Britain*, but I can perceive a Degree of it without Slavery, and I disown all other. I do not expect that the Interests of the Colonies will be considered by some Men, but in Subserviency to other Regards. The Effects of Luxury, and Venality, and Oppression, Posterity may perhaps experience, and SUFFICIENT FOR THE DAY WILL BE THE EVIL THEREOF.

\* The ingenious Mr. *Hume*, observes in his History of *James I*, that the *English* fine Cloth was in so little Credit even at Home, that the King was obliged to seek Expedients by which he might engage the People of Fashion to wear it, and the Manufacture of fine Linen was totally unknown in the Kingdom—What an Encouragement to Industry! This very penetrating Gentleman also recommends a *mild Government*, as a proper Measure for preserving the Dominion of *England* over her Colonies.

† See *The Regulations*, &c. Page 111.