

Parliament, are entitled, in the Opinion of your Memorialists, to all the inherent Rights and Liberties of the Natives of *Great-Britain*, and have ever since the Settlement of the said Colonies, exercised those Rights and Liberties, as far as their local Circumstances would permit.

That your Memorialists humbly conceive one of the most essential Rights of these Colonies, which they have ever, till lately, uninterruptedly enjoyed, to be Trial by Jury.

That your Memorialists also humbly conceive another of these essential Rights to be the Exemption from all Taxes, but such as are imposed on the People by the several Legislatures in these Colonies, which Right also they have, till of late, freely enjoyed.

But your Memorialists humbly beg Leave to represent to your Lordships, That the Act for granting certain Stamp Duties in the *British* Colonies in *America*, &c. fills his Majesty's *American* Subjects with the deepest Concern, as it tends to deprive them of the Two fundamental and invaluable Rights and Liberties above mentioned, and that several other late Acts of Parliament, which extend the Jurisdiction and Powers of Courts of Admiralty in the Plantations, beyond their Limits in *Great-Britain*, thereby make an unnecessary and unhappy Distinction as to the Modes of Trial, between us and our Fellow Subjects there, by whom we never have been excelled in Duty and Loyalty to our Sovereign.

That from the natural Connection between *Great-Britain* and *America*, the perpetual Continuance of which your Memorialists most ardently desire, they conceive that nothing can Conduce more to the Interest of both, than the Colonists free Enjoyment of their Rights and Liberties, and an affectionate Intercourse between *Great-Britain* and them. But your Memorialists (not waving their Claim to these Rights, of which with the most becoming Veneration and Deference to the Wisdom and Justice of your Lordships, they apprehend they cannot Reasonably be deprived) humbly Represent, That from the peculiar Circumstances of these Colonies, the Duties imposed by the aforesaid Act, and several other late Acts of Parliament, are extremely Grievous and Burthensome, and the Payment of the said Duties will very soon, for want of Specie, become absolutely impracticable; and that the Restrictions on Trade by the said Acts, will not only greatly distress the Colonies, but must be extremely detrimental to the Trade and true Interest of *Great-Britain*.

Your Memorialists therefore, impressed with a just Sense of the unfortunate Circumstances of the Colonies, and the impending destructive Consequences which must necessarily ensue from the Execution of those Acts, animated with the warmest Sentiments of filial Affection for their Mother Country, most earnestly and humbly entreat, That your Lordships will be pleased to Hear their Counsel in Support of this Memorial, and take the Premises into your most serious Consideration, and that your Lordships will also be thereupon pleased to pursue such Measures for Restoring the just Rights and Liberties of the Colonies, and preserving them for ever inviolate,  
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