

This Association was looked upon, by all wise and thoughtful Men, as the safest Expedient that could be fallen upon to open the Eyes of the Ministry, and both Houses of Parliament, and thereby, in a peaceable Manner, bring about a Repeal of the unconstitutional Duty-Act. The Eagerness that all Ranks of People, from the River *St. Lawrence* to the Gulf of *Florida*, containing at least Four Millions of *British* Subjects, shewed, by uniting in one grand Point, which they looked upon as the PALLADIUM of AMERICA, might have induced any Man among them, or informed of their Sentiments, to desist from any Attempt to injure or destroy what they held SACRED and on the Security of which the Happiness of such Numbers of People depended. GOD forbid that any Man, or Number of Men, should be unjustly accused of any such Design; but we have too much Reason to Fear, and to believe, that *some*, both in *America* and *Britain*, think too lightly of the *American* Association, treat it with Contempt, and give it the ridiculous Appellation of a Farce.

The Success which attended the Association, with Respect to the Stamp-Act, flattered the People in *Maryland*, that the same Merchants in *Britain* who had opposed that oppressive Law, as injurious to Trade, would, upon the same Principles, and upon the same Requisitions from *America*, have used their utmost Endeavours for repealing the Law laying a Duty on Tea, Paper, Glass, and Painters Colours; and for the obtaining of which Repeal, the Legislatures of the different Provinces of *America* had made the most pressing Solicitations.

Indeed the *Americans* warmly wished and expected, that all those who had espoused their Cause in the Repeal of the Stamp-Act, would again enforce and back their Petitions; but in this they were disappointed, for at the very critical Time, when *American* Affairs were under parliamentary Consideration, a large Body of Merchants, on the 22d Day of *March*, joined in a very loyal Address to the Crown, (*approving of all the Measures of Government, and resolving to support them*) which was by many thought inimical to the Cause of *America*.

Our Business is to state Facts, not to draw Conclusions; certain it is however, that *the very next Day*, after presenting that Address, all the Petitions from *America* were rejected, and refused to be read; whether that Address was well timed, or not, for the Interest of *America*, we submit to the impartial World, after observing, that a very short Time before, many severe Resolves had passed both Houses of Parliament with Regard to *America*, and a joint Address made to the Throne, to enforce the Statute of *Henry* the VIII. to try the *Americans* in some County in *England*. Extracts of these Addresses and Resolves we shall lay before the Public; but previous to them, we shall produce

Some Extracts of his Majesty's Speech of the 8th *November* 1768—Then
 _____ of the Addresses of the Lords and Commons.

_____ of the Resolves of the Lords and Commons of the 15th *December* 1768,
 and 8th *February* 1769.

The Address to his Majesty upon these Resolves.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer of the 13th *February* 1769. And lastly,

The Address of the *London* Merchants of the 22d *March*.