

We conceive the only and true questions between us, are, 1st. Whether the seizure and confiscation of all property (debts only excepted) in this state belonging to British subjects, is supported and justified by the law of nature and nations. 2^{dly}. Whether policy requires or forbids the exercise of the right of seizure at this time. We apprehend the description in the bill of British subjects, the line drawn to ascertain them; whether persons are included who ought not, and the mode of obtaining or of disposing of the property, are foreign to and ought not to be blended with the questions; those matters can only obscure, but not elucidate the subject, on which we differ so widely from you in opinion.

Your honours cannot discover the justice of seizing and applying British property, to relieve our people from heavy and intolerable taxes, and to enable them to continue the war. We support the measure by the rule of justice, applicable to our citizens, and the subjects of Great Britain. By justice we mean a constant regard to the common interest, and in conformity to it, rendering to both parties what they are entitled to, by a natural or political claim: and we understand the true principles of justice to be, to do unto others what would be right for them (in a similar case) to do unto us. To examine this subject. The people of the colonies (now United States) oppressed by the king and parliament of Great-Britain, applied for a redress of grievances. Force was employed to compel their submission to acts destructive of their natural and civil rights; hostilities were commenced against them; they resisted by arms; such resistance was necessary and justifiable. The war continued; the object of America was confined only to a redress of grievances. The king and parliament of Great-Britain