

in the last? Would it be possible for the colonies, after being burthened in their trade, perhaps after it is ruined, to raise men? Is it probable that they would have spirit enough to exert themselves? If 'tis said the French will never try for America, or if they should, regular troops are only to be employed. I grant our regular troops are the best in the world, and that the experience of the present officers shews that they are capable of every species of American service; yet we should guard against the worst. If another trial for Canada should take place, which from the known temper of France, we may judge she will bring on the first fair opportunity, it might require 30 or 40,000 regulars to secure his Majesty's just rights. If it should be said, that other American duties must then be levied, besides the impossibility of our being able to pay them, the danger recurs of a large standing army so remote from home. Whereas a good provincial militia, with such occasional succours from the mother country, as exigencies may require, never was, and never will be attended with hazard. The experience of past times will show, that an army of 20 or 30,000 veterans, half 3000 miles from *Rome*, were very apt to proclaim *Cæsars*. The first of the name, the assassin of his country, owed his false glory, to stealing the affections of an army from the commonwealth. I hope these hints will not be taken amiss; they seem to occur from the nature of the subject I am upon: They are delivered in pure affection to my King and country, and amount to no reflection on any man. The best army, and the best men, we may hereafter have, may be led into temptation; all I think, is, that a prevention of evil is much easier than a deliverance from it.

The sum of my argument is, That civil government is of God: That the administrators of it were originally the whole people: That they might have devolved it on whom they pleased: That this devolution is fiduciary, for the good of the whole: That by the British constitution, this devolution is on the King, lords and commons, the supreme sacred and uncontrollable legislative power, not only in the realm, but thro' the dominions: That by the abdication, the original compact was broken to pieces: That by the revolution, it was renewed, and more firmly established, and the rights and liberties of the subject in all parts

of the dominions, more fully explained and confirmed: That in consequence of this establishment, and the acts of succession and union, his Majesty GEORGE III. is rightful king and sovereign, and with his parliament, the supreme legislative of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, and the dominions thereto belonging: That this constitution is the most free one, and by far the best, now existing on earth: That by this constitution, every man in the dominions is a free man: That no parts of his Majesty's dominions can be taxed without their consent: That every part has a right to be represented in the supreme or some subordinate legislature: That the refusal of this, would seem to be a contradiction in practice to the theory of the constitution: That the colonies are subordinate dominions, and are now in such a state, as to make it best for the good of the whole, that they should not only be continued in the enjoyment of subordinate legislation, but be also represented in some proportion to their number and estates, in the grand legislature of the nation: That this would firmly unite all parts of the British empire, in the greatest peace and prosperity; and render it invulnerable and perpetual.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Philadelphia, to his Friend in Newbern, dated Novemb. 23. 1764.

S I R,

A GREEABLE to your Desire, and my Promise, I now trouble you with a brief Detail of our Political Proceedings here.

The House of Representatives, after debating a whole Day and Evening, on the Petition formerly sent to his Majesty, praying a Change of Government, came to this Conclusion, by a Majority of 24 to 10, to continue the Instructions of the late House to the Agent at *London*. They also carried the appointing a Committee of Correspondence to direct the Agent aforesaid, and elected such Men as are the known Supporters of the Country's Cause, and were Members of the last House. The old Party (so called) have succeeded in every Point, and in the important one of appointing the Hon. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Esq; an Agent, to assist the present Agent at the Court of *London*: For which Place he embark'd on *Wednesday* last from *Chester*; to where he was attended by a very great Number of the reputable Inhabitants of this City and County; and on his embarking, was saluted by a Number of Cannon, and the Huzza's of the People; and an Anthem was sung. (composed here)

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