

Britain, That, in this very Instance of the Stamp Duties, The Penalties, which by the American Stamp Act were made recoverable without a Jury before a Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court, are by the Laws now in force for Collecting the Stamp Duties in Great Britain recoverable also without a Jury before two Justices of the Peace with the like Powers in both Cases, which we earnestly wish were not still more necessary for the Collection of the Publick Revenue in America than in Great Britain; and which we sh^d be most desirous, if possible, to Alleviate in both Countries; With this View, & to take away all Just Occasion for Discontent. We were very glad to find by the Representation from the late Commissioners of the Treasury to his Majesty in Council, Dated on the 14th day of July last, That the strictest Attention had been given by that Board to prevent the Inconvenience & Injustice above mentioned, by a Plan to Establish three different Courts of Vice Admiralty, at the most Convenient Places, with proper Districts Annexed to each; and to give the Judges Sufficient & Honble Salaries in lieu of all Poundage & Fees whatsoever. But We cannot observe without the highest Concern & Surprise That this Representation, founded on a Clause inserted in the Stamp Act for this very purpose, & expressly Calculated to relieve His Matys Subjects in North America, from many Unnecessary Hardships and Oppressions to which they are now liable by many other Laws still Subsisting, sh^d be totally disregarded for several months, and be Suffered to remain unexecuted in every part of it even to this day; and that no Notice whatever sh^d be taken in any of the dispatches from the present Administration to the Governors of the Colonies in North America of the timely care exerted to Obviate the Objections raised on both those Heads, especially as it is Notorious, that the measures to be pursued in Consequence of that Minute & Representⁿ had been fully Opened & Approved in Parliament at the time when the Stamp Act was Proposed: And as the total Neglect of it has given Occasion to great Clamour & Dissatisfaction in the Colonies We cannot help further observing, that as the Stamp Act was not to take place till the 1st of Nov^r if the Parliament had been called early their Determinations either for enforcing or repealing that Law would probably have delivered the Merchants & Manufacturers here, from all the Difficulties & Distress to which they have been for so many months exposed nor could the Disorders in America where all Governm^t is Prostrate, have Arisen to so great a Height, or taken so deep a Root.

3^d Because the Argum^t. which has been used in favor of this Bill of Repeal that the Experiment of the Stamp Act has