

down his House should have been related with the two extraordinary Circumstances you mention of the Attorney General's & Sheriffs being present & exciting the Populace to Acts of Violence for as to the Attorney General he was not present & so far is he from being a Person that would encourage a Mob on such or indeed on any occasion that I can assure Your Excellency he is quite the Reverse & at that very time some Threats were thrown out by the Mob as I have been well informed against himself. With respect to the Sheriff the Case as I had it a few Days afterwards from himself & others was this; several People passing along the Street where he lived & was then sitting came in & insisted upon his giving them a Bottle of Wine which he could not refuse & afterwards insisted on his going with them to some other House whence after drinking one Glass with them he broke away returned directly home & went to Bed at least two Hours before they pulled down the House or committed any Act of Violence nor did he then know or hear of their having an Intention to do any such Act so that the Report Your Excellency had heard with respect to him also was contrary to Truth I flatter myself therefore Your Exc^y will not give it the least Credit. What Your Excellency had probably heard about an Officer belonging to His Majesty's Sloop The Hornet being very ill used at a Publick House here a few Nights after the Mob had assembled & pull'd down M^r Hoods House was too true, but the Gentleman is I hope by this time pretty well recovered as he was in a fair Way when he left this place about a Fortnight ago. The occasion of it was an unlucky Dispute about their Prowess into which a Passenger the Officer had with him & one M^r Hammond had fallen about Midnight in a large Company at a Publick House which they agreed to decide by a Bout at Boxing in which M^r Hammond was it seems defeated & obliged to leave the Company, whereupon there was an Outcry (supposed to have been raised by some who had been concerned in M^r Hoods Affair) thro the Town that he had been kill'd by the Officer who when the Mob was thereby brought together had really like to have been murdered by them upon that supposition, but as every Gentleman in Town expressed their Abhorrence of this outrage as soon as it was known no Body chose to acknowledge themselves the Actors & very few that they had been even present, nor has there been any Mob raised or the least Violence committed here since that Night, & I am not without Hopes that when the People have had time to cool & to consider that such Sort of Proceedings may in the End be attended with very serious & perhaps fatal Consequences to some of them they will behave themselves for the future after a more orderly manner. With the greatest Respect &c.