

tion of the Interest will at least prevent its becoming worse, & at all events the faith of the Colonies will be Pledged to the Lenders. But in this, as in every thing else, his Lordship's relyance is upon yo^r Excellency & his Council, & If the Scheme, when it comes to be Carried into execution, shall meet with yo^r approbation, there is little doubt of its receiving his Concurrence.

His Lordship hoped that all Altercations between his 2 Houses of Assembly would have at least subsided, till the more Important one with Great Britain was Determined, but is Sorry to find no Respite is to be given to the Attacks upon his Just rights & Prerogative. He has carefully read every Line of the different Messages, & has made very attentive and accurate observations upon the various matters discussed in them, w^{ch} may be the subject of a future Letter from his Lordship, or by me as his amanuensis. In the mean time he can scarce Sufficiently admire the obstinacy of the attack & the little value of the object, w^{ch} has created so great a disturbance, undoubtedly the Prelude to greater matters. But he can never forget the firmness with which your Excellency & the Council have Stood in the Gap, and in a particular manner he desires to be remembered to the Ingenious Pen, w^{ch} has so ably asserted & Proved the Justice of his Claims, in opposition to the Intended Innovations & Encroachm^{ts} & w^{ch} he is assured, can be no other than that to w^{ch} America in a great measure owes its present Deliverance. His Lordship hopes the Continuance of the same Steady Support from his Council, & as they have very properly submitted the reference of his rights to the only Judicature, Competent to Judge between him & his People, the King in Council; to that Tribunal he makes his appeal & Invites his Pursuers to meet him upon that ground; He means not to be Judge in his own Cause, nor can he admit them to be so in theirs; much less is he to be talked out of rights so long enjoyed, & to give up reason & Argument to Importunity. He therefore entreats yo^r Excellency to animate his Council to Persevere in their laudable resistance to such unjustifiable measures when ever the Attack shall be renewed, & depends upon yo^r Negative when it shall become necessary; for it is not the cause of M^r Ross alone, to be given up by him at the Instigation of his fears; for tho' one officer sho^d decline, the office will still remain, & another be easily found to Supply it; & tho' the Blow is struck at him, it is too evidently Levelled at his Principal, who has a just Claim not to be deserted.

It is with great concern his Lordship sees the low ebb to w^{ch} the Civill Power is reduced, but hopes, now the occasion of the late universal Discontent has been removed, that Order