

to attain the very Point at w^{ch} they aimed, the immediate Repeal of the Stamp Act without any previous Submission on the part of the Colonies, the Legislature has in Fact submitted to them, & has only more grievously injured its own Dignity & Authority by Verbally Asserting that Right w^{ch} it substantially yeilds up to their opposition. The reasons assigned for this Concession, render it still more alarming, as they arise from an Illegal Hostile Combination of the People in America to Distress & Starve Our Manufacturers & to withhold from our Merch^{ts} the Paym^t of their Just Debts the former of w^{ch} Measures has only been practiced in open war between two States, [& the] latter we believe not even in that situation, either by the Publick or by Individuals amongst the Civilized Nations of Europe in Modern times. If this unprecedented Plan of Intimidation shall meet with Success, it is easy to foresee that the Practice of it for o^r & still greater Objects will frequently be renewed & our Manufacturers & Merch^{ts} reduced to the like and more Permanent Distress. We cannot therefore but wish that some more eligible Method consistent wth their future Safety & our Dignity had been taken by Parliam^t to shew our tender concern & compassion for their Sufferings & to discourage any other such unwarrantable attempts, w^{ch} we are fully persuaded wo^d have been very practicable with due care & attention & at an Expence very inferior to the Importance of the Object.

Lastly. Because we are Convinced from the unanimous Testimony of the Gov^r & other officers of the Crown in America, that if by a Most unhappy Delay & Neglect to Provide for the due Execution of the Law, & Arm the Governm^t therewth proper orders & Powers repeatedly called for in Vain, these Disturbances had not been continued & encreased they might easily have been quieted, before they had Attained to any dangerous Height, and we cannot without feeling the most lively Sense of Grief & Indignation hear Arguments drawn from the Progress of Evils w^{ch} sho^d & might have been Stopped in their first feeble beginings, used for the still greater Evil of Sacrificing to a present Relief, the highest Permanent Interests & the whole Majesty, Power & Reputation of Governm^t This Afflicts us the more deeply because it Appears from many Letters that this Law if properly Supported by Governm^t would from the peculiar Circumstances Attending the Disobedience to it, execute itself without Blood shed, & it is said in one of the Letters to M^r Secretary Conway "that the Principal View is to intimidate the Parliam^t but that if it be thought Prudent to enforce their Authority, the People dare not oppose a Vigorous Resolution of the Parliam^t of Great Britain" That Vigorous Resolution has not yet been