

P. R. O. persons, or other such like pretend to accuse me to yo^r Lordp^s they may be obliged to sign the same, & give security: for Cood and Slye ow more than they are worth; especially the latter; who wth much shirking keeps out of Jail. Mason and Clark have very inconsiderable Estates: So that when I have cleared my self, which I hope in God, to doe by yo^r Lordp^s permission; I may have my Remedy at Law agst. them. Its one of Coods principles that Fling a great deal of Dirt, and some will stick: and its not to be doubted but they agree with him therein.

I neither pretend to be infallible, nor wise at all times; for I very well know that 'tis in man to err, & none lives without faults: but I dare affirm to yo^r Lordp^s that mine are of the Understanding, and not of the will: especially those concerning this his most sacred Majestys Government.

When his Majestys Affairs obliged me calling the Council, I have done it: but several times have not been able to get 3 of them together: So finding it absolutely necessary for his Majestys Service; I have called to my Assistance Major John Hammond who lives with in 3 miles of this place, is one of the Provincial Justices, and one of the Delegates for this County; with Cap^m Richard Hill, who lives just by the town, & is also a Provincial Justice and Delegate: and sometimes M^r Thomas Tasker who lives from hence about 30 miles, and is one of the Provincial Justices also. If I had not called these Gentlemen: I must have been forced either to have left his Majestys Business undone for want of 3 of the Council; or must have done it with the Assistance only of one or two of his Majestys Council.

If what I have done herein, be not to yo^r Lordp^s Satisfaction: yet I hope yo^r Lordp^s will be pleased to grant me yo^r Pardon for it, as an intellectuall, and not a willfull Error: as also for this very long letter: & that yo^r Lordp^s will be pleased to give me leave to assure yo^r Lordp^s that I must own myself to be

Yo^r Lordp^s most obliged,
obedient,
and faithfull humble Servant

Fr: Nicholson

Your Lordp^s having been pleased to send me a good Number of printed Proclamations prohibiting his Majestys Subjects betaking them selves to the service of foreign Princes and States, were extraordinary usefull and serviceable. So am an humble suppliant to yo^r Lordp^s that you would be pleased to