

C. P. tho' she had intimated to severall of her acquaintance, that it was of dangerous Consequence, and tended to excite Rebellion, in the Province Which he hearing from severall Hands, had required the said Letter, which was now in the Hands of the Clerk of the Council, and inclosed under his Excellency's owne Seale.

Which by his Excellency's order, was opened at the Board, by the Clerk of the Council, and read as follow's Viz.

R^d in Chr. P^r

D C Yours of the twenty first was very agreeable, especially towards the End, for its ingenious banter, had I not been Prevented by this Your Sarcasm, I might have had Prudence enough to have desired Your Correction, of my imperfect and indigested Thoughts, that the abounding Dross, might have been severed, by Y^r Skillful Hand, from the little Bullion, if Yet there be any Ore, therein Contained, but as for Y^r Perusal of my &c^a with the mentioned designe, I shall never consent, to so much loss of Your tyme, As for that which has four times stood the Test, its too thread bare, to appear this cold Season, & its well if it be not condemned, to lower Germany, before I see You next, for its so ill acquitting its selfe, in past Service.

But whence this unseasonable Petition, this unexpected Demand, was it to stop my Mouth, from the like foreseen request, Indeed I might wth greater reason, have Petitioned a Moddel, to Copy after, for w^t Wonder if Militiæ tyro Militis emeriti artem sibi, in Exemplum Proponit &c.

What you mentioned of M^r James Carroll's Liberality, was News to me. I do not see why we may not Strike, while the Iron is hot. Why can we not enter thereon, tho' with some difficulty? all beginnings are hard, but why may not we rub through as well as Our fforeffathers? wou'd not two or three Hands Suffice for a beginning? & this I shou'd think might be procured: I acknowledge myselfe unfit for such an undertaking but shou'd be very willing to do my Endeavours, to struggle with it were it Committed to my Charge, and why don't we admitt the Offer, since a new Supply is expected with the Major? I am much of the Italian's mind, that no Occasion is to be Passed by I suppose what you mentioned, was Secret, and shall therefore do my Endeavour, to take away difficulty, and forward the main concern I conclude wishing you a happy Christmass, & a good New Year, M^r Hunter tells me (for a fresh thought occurs and I can't conclude as yet) in one I lately received from him, that he is recovered from his relapse, but very Chilly, & Subject to Colds, And that for his Ease, M^r Brooke was inclining, to have You