

me one word of any real miscarriage, & what they would have redressed, is villanous in them, and in Govern^r Nicholson not well, being fitter for independant sovereignties thⁿ persons of the same Nation and Allegiance. Truly these things trouble me. Had Col. Nicholson sent me word of any miscarriage, or careless, if not corrupt, practices of our faults, I would have taken the Information most friendly, and begged his oversight, as the greatest favour he could doe me.

B. M.
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There are two ways of doing all things, a faire and a foul, a rough and a soft method. I could not have hurt Col Nicholson's trust, to have shewed us, the first time at least, his fairer and softer side. I omit thy particular heats against us, thy Imprecations upon poor Philadelphia, and that there shall be as many Bills set up there as houses in a while; because it may be the fruit of passion: yet out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh, as saith our blessed Savio^r. Nor will I take notice of faults in thy own Charge and Government of which I have heard many, and foul enough if true; for its not my business. Nor have I once aggravated th^m to thy disservice; but have oftener excused thy excesses thⁿ served myself of th^m and th^t for the sake of some good qualities I have heard of thee by some that knew thee before thou knewest America. And therefore in my Complaint, with many more, about the 10^{ll} p. c. calculated plainly to our prejudice (it being only executed upon us) Virginia and New York being allowed to escape th^t cruel Incumberance, and indeed oppression, and what is in its own nature an high misdemeanour agst Mother-Country-Engld, I worded it without the least personal Refction. And in o^r Friends Memorial to the Lords of Trade and Plantacions about the 40^{ll} of Tobacco p. head, Thou art not so much as named. And I must doe th^m the Justice to say they have not play'd the Capt. Snead to Thee, but with great Regards to thy Reputacion saying nothing that was ill, and several things that were to thy Advantage. And in my reply to thy answer to S. Carpenter's &c. petition, there is not one Insinuacion but what strictly belongs to the business, and in Terms short and decent, I hope.

I say not this to bespeak any thing but justice and hearty good neighbourhood, if it may be; and if it cant be we must shift for ourselves. But because thy Friends who have written to thee, have assured me it will be better, and th^t we shall live with more regard to a friendly Commerce and Correspondence, I have writ this to let thee see it is in thy power, if thou pleasest, to have a better understanding, to our own satisfaction, the good of the provinces and their happier Intercourse, and the Crown's true service. And if this meet wth a right