

with M^r Steward, about building the Galley. You might have had it before, if you had applied to us for Information on the Subject, you never was informed by this Board, that there was not a written Agreement. In Justice to M^r Steward, we think it necessary to add, that he positively denies he seized the 6000 Dollars, for the Reasons you assign. We do not deny that you consulted us, in the Instance you mentioned. As to your Intentions to consult us in other Instances, we know of no Rule by which to judge of your Intentions, unless it be your Practice, which would be against you, on this Occasion, as you yourself do not pretend that you have consulted us in more than one Instance, and desired to do it in only two others, since the last Session of Assembly. You say, "the Governor and Council surely know the principal Resources the Intendant has in his Hands, and that it is not long since the Intendant informed them of every Species of Property on Hand." We have a Return from your Office, dated the 1st of April, of the Specifics then on Hand, and we have another Return, signed by the Commissary, the 28th of June, of what had been received in eight Counties, 'til May. If these Returns, which were furnished on our Application, contain your principal Resources, we must acknowledge we are acquainted with them. We neither have, nor had any Suspicion, that the present Intendant would make use of the public Property, for his private Emolument; but as it is possible that those who may hereafter fill that Office (for we cannot agree with you, that in a certain Event, the Office will be less necessary than at present) may be selfish, corrupt and ambitious, it evinces the Propriety of a Power being somewhere lodged, to guard against their pernicious and destructive Practices. We still adhere to our Opinion, that there cannot be a Case, in which it would be proper in us to give our Opinion upon an Account, previous to your Determination on it. In some Cases it may be necessary for you to get Information from us, and that, you will acknowledge, we never refused to give you.

Permit us now to recommend to your serious Consideration the Necessity of doing some one Act, before the Meeting of the Assembly, to convince them that "the Business which the Governor and Council were not competent to," was properly placed in your Hands. If we mistake not, it will require the whole Force of your Abilities for the two or three Months to come, to make them forget, that your Receipts from the Sales of Specifics, for the first seven Months of your Administration, amounted to no more than £2201..6..10. "Altho' forewarned by past Experiences that the Neglect of Sale was 10 p Cent Loss to the State," and that the public Accounts remained in the same Confusion, and the Specifics throughout the Country, in the same ruinous State you found them.

September
11
Liber No. 78
p. 374

p. 375