

Peace, in open Violation of the most solemn Treaties, made themselves Masters of, we embrace with the greatest Pleasure, as most agreeable to our Wishes.

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 48  
February 25

We flatter ourselves our Behaviour on this so highly important Occasion, will fully demonstrate, that your Excellency's Confidence of our keeping secret the Copy of the Minutes of Proceedings of a Council of War, held at New-York, together with the other Papers, therewith, by your Excellency, for our Satisfaction, laid before us, is well grounded: And we will, after paying a due Regard to our own immediate Safety, with the greatest Chearfulness and Expedition, grant such Supplies as can be reasonably expected from this Province, towards carrying the proposed Plan into Execution. And being as deeply affected with a Sense of the Danger of suffering the Enemy to make any further Progress, and of our Duty to the best of Sovereigns, as any of our Fellow-Subjects in the neighbouring Colonies can be, we hope to acquit ourselves as well as the most Zealous of them: Nor shall it be for Want of our chearfully exercising our most Endeavors (consistent with the Rights and Privileges of our Constituents) to promote and forward them, if unhappily those Enterprises that may be undertaken for our common Safety, and in the Event of which we are so nearly interested, should not prove successful.

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That our Circumstances and Prospect are much altered since last Spring, by the Issue of the Expedition, in which the Troops that his Majesty was graciously pleased to order from Europe to our Assistance, and some of the Provincial Forces, were then engaged, and with the Consequences thereof to these Southern Colonies, we are unfortunately too well acquainted: But whether by that Event, by French Artifices, or by any other Mean, the Delaware and Shawanese Tribes of Indians (till then esteemed our Friends) have been terrified, or seduced from their Attachment to the British Interest, and instigated to carry on a most cruel and inhuman War, we are most sensibly affected with, and feel with ardent Indignation, the most severe Calamities which the Frontier-Inhabitants (especially of our Sister Colonies) have for some Time been, and we understand still are exposed to, from so active, fierce and merciless Enemies.

To multiply Words on a Subject so shocking to human Nature, might perhaps afford Occasion of Suspicion, that most of us being remote from the horrid Scene, our Resentment is not yet sufficiently raised at the audacious Conduct of those Blood-thirsty Barbarians, and that we continue cool and indifferent Spectators, of their more than inhuman Transactions, tho' flushed with Success, and triumphing at having lately depopulated and laid waste considerable parts of three Provinces, they now insolently boast, that nothing less than our utter Extirpation shall appease their savage Fury; but we should be