

any proposition be happily made by the crown or parliament, that may lead to or lay a rational and probable ground for reconciliation, you use your utmost endeavours to cultivate and improve it into a happy settlement and lasting amity, taking care to secure the colonies against the exercise of the right assumed by parliament to tax them, and to alter and change their charters, constitutions, and internal polity, without their consent, powers incompatible with the essential securities of the lives, liberties, and properties of the colonists.

We further instruct you, that you do not without the previous knowledge and approbation of the Convention of this province, assent to any proposition to declare these colonies independent of the crown of Great-Britain, nor to any proposition for making or entering into alliance with any foreign power, nor to any union or confederation of these colonies, which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country, unless in your judgments, or in the judgments of any four of you, or of a majority of the whole of you, if all shall be then attending in Congress, it shall be thought absolutely necessary for the preservation of the liberties of the united colonies; and should a majority of the colonies in Congress against such your judgment, resolve to declare these colonies independent of the crown of Great-Britain, or to make or enter into alliance with any foreign power, or into any union or confederation of these colonies, which may necessarily lead to a separation from the mother country, then we instruct you immediately to call the Convention of this province, and repair thereto with such proposition and resolve, and lay the same before the said Convention, for their consideration, and this Convention will not hold this province bound by such majority in Congress, until the representative body of the province in Convention assent thereto.

Desirous as we are of peace with Great-Britain upon safe and honourable terms, we wish you nevertheless, and instruct you, to join with the other colonies in such military operations as may be judged proper and necessary for the common defence, until such a peace can be happily obtained.

At the same time that we assure you we have an intire confidence in your abilities and integrity in the discharge of the great trust reposed in you, we must observe to you as our opinion, that in the relation of constituent and representative, one principal security of the former is, the right he holds to be fully informed of the conduct of the latter: we can conceive no case to exist, in which it would be of more importance to exercise this right than the present, nor any in which we can suppose the representative would more willingly acquiesce in the exercise of it. We therefore instruct you, that you move for and endeavour to obtain a resolve of Congress, that the votes given by the colonies on every question agitated in Congress, shall appear upon the journals thereof; and if such resolve be obtained, that you, at the expence of this province, procure copies of the said journals, except such parts thereof as relate to military operations, and measures taken to procure arms and ammunition, and from time to time lay the same before the Conventions of this province, shewing the part you, as representatives of the province, take in such questions.

And we further instruct you, to move for and endeavour to obtain a resolve of Congress, that no person who holds any military command in the continental, or any provincial regular forces, or marine service, nor any person who holds or enjoys any office of profit under the Continental Congress, or under any government assumed since the present controversy with Great-Britain began, or which shall hereafter be assumed, or who directly or indirectly receives the profits or any part of the profits of such command or office, shall, during the time of his holding or receiving the same, be eligible to sit in Congress.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning half after 9 o'clock.

F

F R I D A Y,