

much depend on the Testimonies they shall now give of these Dispositions -

For as a dutiful and affectionate return to such peculiar Proofs of Indulgence and Affection may now at this great crisis be a means of fixing the mutual Interests and Inclinations of Great Britain and her Colonies on the most firm and Solid Foundations, so it cannot but appear visible that the least Coldness or Unthankfulness, the least Murmuring or Dissatisfaction on any Ground whatsoever, of former Heat; or too much prevailing prejudice, may fatally endanger that Union, and give the most severe and affecting blow to the future Interests of both Countries.

You will think it scarce possible, to imagine that the paternal Care of His Majesty for his Colonies, or the Lenity and Indulgence of the Parliament, should go farther than I have mentioned; yet so full of true Unanimity are the Sentiments of both, and so free from the smallest Colour of Passion or Prejudice, that they seem disposed not only to forgive, but to forget those most unjustifiable Marks of an undutiful Disposition, too frequent in the late Transactions of the Colonies, and which for the Honour of those Colonies, it were to be wished had been more discountenanced, and discouraged, by those who had Knowledge to conduct themselves otherwise -

A Revision of the late American Trade Laws is going to be the immediate Object of Parliament. Nor will the late Transactions there, however provoking, prevent, I dare say, the full Operation of that kind and indulgent Disposition prevailing both in His Majesty and his Parliament, to give to the Trade and Interests of America, every Relief, which the true State of their Circumstances demands, or admits.

Nothing will tend more effectually to every conciliating purpose, and there is nothing therefore I have in Command more earnestly to require, of you than that you should exert yourself in recommending it strongly to the Assembly, that full and ample Compensation be made to those, who, from the Madness of the People, have suffered for their Obedience to Acts of the British Legislature; and you will be particularly attentive that such Persons be effectually secured from any further insult, and that as far as in you lies you will take care by your Example and Influence, that they may be treated with that respect to their Persons and that Justice in regard to all their Pretensions which their merits and their Sufferings undoubtedly claim. The Resolutions of the House of Commons, which by His Majesty's Commands I transmit to you to be laid before the Assembly, will show you the sense of that House on those Points, and I am persuaded, it will, as it certainly ought, be the Glory of that Assembly to adopt and imitate those Sentiments of the British Parliament, founded on the clearest Principles of Humanity and Justice.

I must mention one Circumstance in particular, which ought to recommend those unhappy People whom the outrage of the Populace has driven from America, to the Affection of all that Country, which is, that unprovoked by the Injuries they had suffered, to a forgetfulness of what they owe to Truth and their Country, they gave their Testimonies with Knowledge, and without Suspicion or Prejudice; and those Testimonies had, I believe, great Weight in the Report of the Stamp Act. Your Situation which has made you a Witness of the Distraction of that Country, will enable you to form the best Judgment of the Behaviour, which your Province ought to use upon this Occasion, and of the Arguments which you ought to employ to enforce the Necessity of such a Behaviour, as is suitable to their present Circumstances -

I am, with great Truth and Regard
Sir
your most Obedient humble Servant.

N. S. Conway.

Ordered that the following Proclamation issue for the Notification thereof, and that M. Greenbe directed to print the said Acts to be annexed to the Proclamations.

Maryland