

in this as well as the Neighbouring Colonies retired some Weeks before.
the Stamp Act was to take Place to New York where he still remains &
as I had no reason to expect that the People of this Province would suffer
him to execute his Office when almost all the other Distributors on the
Continent had been obliged to resign, I did not think it advisable to
call upon him to qualify under his Commission or to expose himself to
Insults by returning to the Province when His Majesty's Service could
not be thereby at all promoted, There being in his Absence no Person
authorized to receive the Stamp Paper which was consigned to him &
no Place of Security here in which it could be lodged I desired Capt
Drowne of His Majesty's Sloop Hawk who had brought hither a
Parcel of it to keep it on board until Instructions could be received
from His Majesty's Ministers concerning it, with which Request
of mine he has complied & still remains at Anchor in this Port.

To General Conway. Annapolis the 12th of Feby 1766
Sir
A Duplicate of the Letter You were pleased to address to me
the 24 of Oct last having been brought hither a few Days ago
by the Post from New York I do myself the honour to acknowledge
my Receipt thereof but must at the same time inform You
that (altho the People of this Province have not gone such length
as those of New York & some other of the Northern Colonies their
Sentiments with respect to the Stamp Act seem to be much the
same & had Mr Hood who was appointed to distribute the Papers
in this Province attempted to execute his Office, it would not I be-
lieve, have been in my power to protect him. In the Letter I took
the liberty to write to the Earl of Halifax the 5th of September