

last I informed His L^{dy} that Mr Hood had a few Days before
retired to New York, where he has remained ever since so that
when Captain Brown, Commander of His Majesty's Sloop Hawk
arrived here in December with some of the stamp Paper desired
for this Province there was no Person authorized to receive & distribute
it had the People been disposed to make Use of it; wherefore as the
Lower House of Assembly were averse to its being landed & there was
no Place of Security here in which it could be lodged I by Advice of
the Council desired Capt Browne to keep it on board, to his
doing so it is probably owing that there hath been no Disturbance
here since that of which I gave an Account in my abovementioned
Letter to the Earl of Halifax. Had I not been convinced that
it would be impossible without a considerable Military Force
to carry the Act of Parliament into Execution here while it was oppo-
sed so violently in the other Colonies I should have called upon
Mr Hood to execute his Office & have promised to support him in
the Discharge of his Duty, but after the Proceedings of the People
at New York in the Presence of General Gage & a Body of His
Majesty's Forces I presumed that nothing more would be expected
from me under such Circumstances than to preserve Peace & good Order
in the Province where I have the honour to preside untill I could
receive His Majesty's Instructions, & I flatter myself with hopes
that my Conduct on the Occasion will not be condemned but meet
with His Majesty's Approbation I am