

and are determined, free from violent personal Malice or Hatred on the one side, or Fear, Favour, or Affection on the other, in that calm and cool way only, to pursue the Publick Welfare; and we hope by our Conduct to convince your Excellency, and the People we have the Honour to Represent, that the Good of this Country is our only View; and as we are sensible that the making of Laws for the real advantage of those who are to be bound by them, is a Task attended with great Difficulty, we will endeavour with the greatest Thought and Attention, to discharge our Duty therein.

We are really concerned that we have the misfortune to differ in Opinion in many Points, and truly wish that our cool and temperate Reasoning could have brought, or may bring us to a right Understanding. We are so well assured the Interest of his Lordship depends on the Prosperity of this Province, that we are unwilling to imagine he has not the latter sincerely at Heart.

For the Safety of the People and Security of their Property, we shall with all cheerfulness give the Government a Suitable and Honourable Support, as well as raise such Sums as may be thought necessary in the present Situation of Affairs according to our Abilities, thereby to shew the Regard we have for the Welfare of the Province, our Zeal for the publick Good, and the forwarding his Majesty's Service.

Whatever Danger might have been lately apprehended from some Negroes in *Prince George's* County, the Punishment they received, we apprehend will deter others from the like Practices; and we hope has prevented any ill Consequences that might have ensued: Self-Preservation and common Prudence will induce us on proper Occasions, to take into our Consideration what may be necessary for our future Defence and Security, as well against our Negroes, as our Neighbours the *French*.

Our common Safety is certainly a Point very well worth our Attention, in the Consideration of which we will Act with all the Prudence and Discretion we are Masters of; and it is with great Pleasure we hear of the Glory acquiring by the *British* Arms, to which we most sincerely wish a continued series of Success.

On our Parts we are truly obliged to your Excellency for expressing your kind Intention and View towards promoting our Happiness and Prosperity: We are fully persuaded that all Gentlemen of Understanding and Humanity, must find a real and lasting Pleasure and Satisfaction, in doing Benevolent and Good Offices; and that to be Governed by one of such Dispositions is a great happiness to a People. We assure your Excel-

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