

Sir.

In times of public distress and convulsion when a free people are threatened with a deprivation of their civil liberty, exertions for its preservation influenced by the purest principles and conducted with all possible attention to Form and Ceremony, we hope will not be considered as an indignity or insult to any rank or station in the Community. The proceeding which your Excellency reprehends in your letter, addressed to Mr. Corroll, John Hall, & Mr. Packer Esqs and communicated by them to our board, arose from an impression that we, who are intrusted with the Public Safety, should pursue with vigilance every essential measure, tho' the danger to be guarded against may rest only in possibility. The intercepted letters from Administration to your Excellency, we own, furnish grounds for conjecture and apprehensions only of your having held an injurious correspondence; and whilst we reflect on the general tenor of your Excellency's conduct, the friendly disposition you have often manifested and the several favorable and impartial representations, you have made to Administration of the Temper and Principles of the people of this Province, we sincerely lament the necessity of the times, which urging us to guard against every possibility of Danger forc'd us to a measure so disagreeable to us and which may prove an unmerited treatment of your Excellency.

We acknowledge Sir, we know of no information, you have given Administration, countenancing or encouraging the introduction of troops into this Province. Nor do we know of any measures whatever to have been concerted or pursued by your Excellency, injurious to this Province or America.

We thank your Excellency from your resolution of continuing in your station as long as permitted or the ostensible form of the established government can contribute to preserve the peace of the Province and we cheerfully acquiesce in your Excellency's assurance that as the Convention is shortly to meet, they shall find you here. As far as our Influence extends with that respectable body it shall not be wanting to remove every obstruction to your peaceable departure, whenever your Excellency's continuance here shall become inconsistent with your instructions or your private affairs shall demand your return.

With ardent wishes for your speedy reconciliation upon honorable and Constitutional forms. We have the honor to be with sincere respect.

18th April 1776.

Your Excellency's most obedient humble

Servant.

To His Excellency Governor Eden.
Gentlemen,

The bearer Capt Walter Hanson of Port Tobacco has been recommended to us by Mr Stoe as a genius in the mechanical way and as a person that may be of service to this Province in gaining a proper knowledge of erecting and working of powder Mills or some other useful and necessary manufactures.

We should be glad to see him and will no doubt recommend him to your notice and also intitle him to every aid and assistance to attain such laudable end in your power.

To Deputies of Mr in Congress.

We are Sir