

I cannot tell how to reconcile your allowance of my Right to vindicate myself by the means of your Press, and your refusing me the Benefit of that Right, with your professing to think, that what I have written, if published by you, would not have given Offence. Whether any unreasonable Offence would have been taken or not, I cannot tell; no just Offence, in my Opinion, could have been taken. Col. *Bland* challenged me, to enter openly into a Debate about an Act of the late Assembly; and censured my Behaviour as *atrociously* Criminal, in relation to that Act: How then could I answer him, without calling the Justice, Reasonableness, and Validity of that Act into Question?

I acknowledge as much Prudence as you please, in the Rule by which your Press is Conducted; but would it not have been Acting more Wisely, by which I mean Fairly and Honestly, either to have published for me Now, or Never to have published against me? Whence has your Office derived a Right to sacrifice any Person's Reputation to worldly Convenience, or prudential Regards?

I have had an Occasion imposed upon me, to put you, I find, to too severe a Trial; in which you have acted just as some of your Superiors would have done under the like Circumstances. You set, no Doubt, a proper Value upon your Character, which is very amiable in many Points of View; it hurts me to find in one an Exception. In Consideration of it's standing so clear of every other Blemish, and in Hope that you will take *gang warily*, in the best Sense of the Expression,