

“ I shall not fail to give those Orders, which you recommend as the *most effectual Method* of bringing the *Authors* of the late unhappy Disorders in that Province to *condign Punishment*.

## THE M E R C H A N T S A D D R E S S.

To the KING's most Excellent MAJESTY.

*Most gracious Sovereign,*

“ WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Merchants, Traders, and other principal Inhabitants of your City of *London*, truly sensible, that it has been your Majesty's constant Care and principal Object, since you ascended the Throne of your illustrious Ancestors, to *secure to your People* the full Enjoyment of their Religion, *Laws, and Liberties, inviolable, and to make them happy, and flourishing* under your Majesty's most auspicious Government, beg Leave to profess our steady Loyalty, and Duty to your Majesty, and our *firm* Resolution to exert our utmost Power in supporting the Honour and Dignity of your Majesty's Crown, in preserving the Safety, Peace, and Tranquillity of your Majesty's *Realms*, in Maintaining public Credit, and *promoting* Commerce, *for the Benefit of your Subjects throughout your Dominions*.

“ And we beg Leave to express our Concern and Abhorrence of every Attempt to spread Sedition, *to inflame the Minds*, and alienate the Affections of a free and loyal People from the best of Kings, and his Government, which, we apprehend, has of late been encouraged, *without the least Shadow of Foundation*, by some *few* ill designing Persons, to answer *sinister and selfish* Purposes.

“ And we most sincerely pray Almighty GOD, that your Majesty's great and bright Example of Piety, Goodness, and Clemency, may operate so effectually upon the Minds of your People, as to suppress that Spirit of Licentiousness, Profaneness, and Irreligion, which has been industriously propagated, to delude the unwary to their own Destruction; and that the same good Providence will grant your Majesty a long and happy Reign over a dutiful and loyal People, and bless your Endeavours with Success, in a firm and permanent Establishment of our most excellent Constitution, which is not only admired, but envied by all foreign Nations.”

The above Extracts and Addresses are produced to prove the then dangerous Situation of *America*, which, GOD help us! is nothing mended, but rather grown worse, and we stand now in more Need of Resolution and unanimity than ever.

It may well be thought that the Conduct of those Persons who had signed the Address of the *London* Merchants of the 22d of *March*, could not be agreeable to the People of these Colonies, as it was apprehended it had fixed the Ministry in their Places, and prevented the Repeal of the Law; but one of the Gentlemen Addressors looking upon himself justified in being a Party to that Address, upon the Principles suggested in a Letter, which his Friends produced to the Public, in the *Maryland Gazette*, Number 1255, we shall, *in Justice to him*, present his Letter once more to the Public.

*Extract*