

belonging to his Excellency the Governor, about 40 Miles above Newbern, pretty pleasantly situated, on a high Hill, about a Quarter of a Mile from the River, having an impenetrable Morass or Swamp in Front, and the River ALMOST navigable for Canoes. But as there was another Bill to have passed at this Time, and have gone Hand in Hand with it, a Bill to empower the Treasurers to receive the Proportion allotted to this Province, of the Parliamentary Grant to the Colonies, for their Assistance in carrying on the War; the Loss and Miscarriage of that Bill so benumbed and froze up the Spirit of the other, that poor *Tower-Hill* was neglected, and the great Ardor of the Commissioners for building the City of G E O R G E, quite dissipated.

And now the Cloud that before was only seen at a Distance, began to gather thick, and the Storm threatened to break over our Heads! DISCONTENT sat on every Brow, and warm Messages and Answers passed between the Governor and the Lower House of Assembly. It would be tedious and disagreeable to wade thro' all the *Hot Water* of these Times, particularly of the Assembly of May, 1760, at Newbern: It may be sufficient to say, that the Seat of Government was totalled removed to Wilmington; Assemblies, Courts of Chancery and Claims, were there held; the Secretary's Office was translated to that See, and a C A R T dispatched to Newbern for the PUBLIC RECORDS. Now it was, that those who were dissatisfied with the Seat of Government at Newbern, and wanted it nearer Home, saw it, too late, removed farther off; saw it removed 100 Miles farther, to the Southern Extremity of the Province; saw it removed to a *sandy Desert*, to which they could not approach, but at the Expence of their Horses Hoofs!

And now my Countrymen, what would *Some of you* give, to have the Seat of Government again at Newbern? To have it in the Centre of the Province, where seldom an Assembly was held, but every Member that possibly could, gave his Attendance; and where there never was Occasion to Prorogue and Dissolve, to Dissolve and Prorogue again, before an Assembly could be got? Methinks I hear some of you break out, 'O Newbern, Newbern! When shall I again tread thy *Grassy Plains*, and shake the *Wilmingtonian Dust* from my Feet! When again shall I breathe that *Air*, and drink of that *Water*, which I was once induced to believe were 'replete with pestiferous Animalculæ!' But enough! 'tis done; and I am doomed to give my Attendance in a sandy Desert; to spend whole *Weeks* and *Months* in a gloomy Sournels and Disquietude; and how I shall acquit myself to my Constituents, to my Country, a Person in a continual Ill-Humour with himself, and every Body about him, can best tell.

In this Situation of Affairs, great Complaints were made; and his Excellency the Governor was pleased to tell the People, the Fault lay at their

own Doors; why did not they Address his Majesty to settle the Seat of Government, as he could not pass a Bill for that Purpose? This was done; both Houses joined in an humble Address to his Majesty, that he would be pleased to take into his Royal Consideration the great Distresses which this Province laboured under, for want of a proper Place Established for the Seat of Government; and that he would be graciously pleased to Settle the same at N E W B E R N; where they would immediately Erect a House for the Residence of his Majesty's Governor, and proper Houses and Offices for holding his Majesty's Courts. The Committee of Correspondence were directed to transmit this Address to the Agent of the Province in England, and direct him to cause it to be presented to his Majesty. Let us now see what Effect this had. Why we are told by our Agent, it seems, that he had laid it before the *proper Boards*; but that in a short Time it was *coolly* re-delivered to him, and he directed to inform his Province, that their Address was blended with Matter of a different Nature, which was unprecedented, and therefore could not be presented to his Majesty; and that they must send over *Another*.

*Quo Animo* are these Things said and done? Why this *cool Re-delivery*? Why direct the Province to send over *Another*? Was *This* for the PUBLIC GOOD? Delays breed Dangers; and since that Time, the Death of one of his Majesty's Council, a Gentleman very instrumental in Passing that Address, has happened, and the Vacancy filled by a Gentleman at *Cape-Fear*. But what in the Name of Wonder, was this Matter of a *different Nature*, complained of? Was it any other than congratulating his Majesty on the Glorious Success of his Arms, in the Prosecution of the just and necessary War; and to assure him of their firm Attachment to his Royal Person, Family, and Government, which they should always be ready, with their Lives and Fortunes, to protect and defend? And can it be supposed that the BEST of Kings would Refuse to Settle perhaps one of the most distressed of his Provinces, only because their Address to him for that Purpose sat out with congratulating him on the Success of the War? *Meer Stuff!* incongruous to Justice, and baneful to Liberty. I fear we have not had FAIR PLAY.

And are THESE TIMES to continue? No, my Countrymen! His Majesty our most Gracious Sovereign, has said No: A King whose Ear is naturally tun'd to the charming Voice of LIBERTY; a King who has declared from the Throne the tender Concern he feels for ALL his People, has said No. Our Grievances have SOME HOW OR OTHER reached his Royal Ear, and he has been graciously pleased to appoint us a New Governor; under whose Administration we have the Blessed Hope of seeing the Settlement of the Country; of seeing, that a Gentleman who may reasonably be supposed divested