

As your Excellency's known Sincerity leaves no Room to suspect you would make any Professions, without an Intention of performing them; and as your Family, Fortune, and Interest in England, will always give considerable Weight to your Remonstrances, we cannot but applaud the happy Distinction of this Province, which has a Governor so studious of promoting, and so well qualified to prosecute its Advantage and Prosperity.

The alarming Tendency of the Stamp-Act, which for some Months past, has excited the Attention of America, has given us an Opportunity of considering it's fatal Influence, with that Deliberation which the Importance of the Subject requires; and we cannot on this Occasion suppress discovering to your Excellency, that every View of this Act, confirms us in our Opinion, that it is destructive of those Liberties, which, as British Subjects, we have a right to enjoy in common with Great Britain.

To our Sovereign we owe, and shall be always ready to testify by our Conduct, every Act of Loyalty and Obedience consistent with the Rights of a free People; and we most sincerely pray, that the British Throne may never want Heirs of the present illustrious House of Hanover, to secure that happy Constitution: But the Extension of the STAMP ACT, by a melancholy Pilgrimage of America being deprived of all, or most of the British Privileges, naturally suggests to us, that the Submission to any Part of so oppressive and (as we think) to unconstitutional Attempts, is opening a direct Inlet for Slavery, which all Mankind will endeavour to avoid.

For these Reasons it is with great Pain we are obliged to dissent from what your Excellency has been pleased to mention, of your paying the Stamp-Duties on the Instruments enumerated in the Proposal; nor can we assent to the Payment of the smaller Stamps: An Admission of Part, would put it out of our Power to refuse, with any Propriety, a Submission to the Whole; and as we can never content to be deprived of the invaluable Privilege of a Trial by Jury, which is one Part of that Act, we think it more consistent, as well as securer Conduct, to prevent, to the utmost of our Power, the Operation of it. — At the same Time we assure your Excellency, that we will, upon every Occasion, avoid and prevent, as far as our Influence extends, any Insult or Injury to any of the Officers of the Crown; but must confess, that the Office of Distributor of the Stamps, is so detested by the People in general, that we don't think either the Person or Property of such an Officer, could by any Means be secured from the Resentment of the Country.

The Connections between Great-Britain and the Colonies, we by no Means desire to interrupt or weaken, but most ardently wish the Prosperity of both may be promoted, by the Encouragement of Commerce, and the Advancement of our mutual Interest.

And we can, with equal Sincerity, assure your Excellency, that we will at all Times, in our respective Stations, cheerfully contribute all in our Power, to render your Excellency's Administration happy, easy and honourable.

To which his EXCELLENCY was pleased to return the following  
A N S W E R; Viz.

To the Gentlemen of NEW HANOVOR, BRUNSWICK and  
BLADEN Counties:

**Y**OUR Answer to my Proposals for the Circulation of the Stamp-Duties, should the Stamps arrive in this Province, is very agreeable to me, so far