

J_____ M_____, J_____ H_____,
 E_____ H_____, and G_____ H_____, to form
 one out of the whole, referring to the several Com-
 plaints for Information of Grievances.

“ And being conscious of our Loyalty to King
 GEORGE the Third, on the present Throne,
 and our firm Attachment to the Present Establish-
 ment and Form of Government, which we sin-
 cerely believe all our Grievances are quite oppo-
 site and contrary to, by downright roguish Prac-
 tices of Men who have crept into Posts of Office,
 and have practised upon our Ignorance and new
 settled Situation.

“ We therefore order the above Committee to
 Implore the Governor’s Pardon and Forgiveness, in
 the most Submissive Manner, for any Errors that
 we may have committed, that is or may be con-
 strued to derogate from the Honour of his Maje-
 sty’s Crown and Dignity, or tending to obstruct
 the Peace and good Order of Government.

“ And for the Governor’s better Information,
 we order the Committee to prepare Copies of all
 our Proceedings which was agreed on by our Body
 even from the first Beginning;———— to go
 with our said Petition,———— and a suitable Number
 of the said Committee to wait on the Governor
 with them as soon as possible.

“ And as we have received a Letter from *An-
 son* County, Informing us of an Association there
 on the same Account, and Requesting our Infor-
 mation of the Manner of our Proceeding, we
 Order a Copy of this to be sent to them imme-
 diately, to prevent Speedily their Running into
 any Error,———— we believing their Scruples to
 be well grounded, and their Intention Honest.”

In *June* they Waited on the Governor with
 the Copies of all the foregoing Papers, and o-
 ther

ther attested Complaints, and brought us back the following Answer, viz.

GENTLEMEN,

I RECEIVED by the Hands of Messrs. Hunter and Howell a Petition, and other Papers, subscribed by several of the Inhabitants on the South Side of Haw-River, in the County of Orange, under the borrowed Title of Regulators, assuming to themselves Power and Authorities (unknown to the Constitution) of calling Publick Officers to a Settlement, together with a Narrative of their Conduct, and Detail of the Grievances and Complaints against the Clerk of the County Register, and other Publick Officers, whose Exactions and Oppressions its pretended has been the Cause of the late Insurrections which have Disturbed the Peace of that Part of the County.

These Papers I have, agreeable to your Desire, communicated to the Members of his Majesty's Council, who having taken the same into their deliberate Consideration, Unanimously concur with me in Opinion, That the Grievances Complained of by no Means warrant the Extraordinary Steps you have taken, in Assembling yourselves together in Arms, to the Obstruction of the Course of Justice, to the Insult of Publick Officers, and to the Injury of Private Property; Measures, as they manifestly tend to the Subversion of the Constitution of this Government, would inevitably, if carried but a little farther, have been denominated, and must have been treated, as High-Treason; and consequently have involved the Abettors, most of whom I am satisfied were actuated by Honest Motives, though incautiously drawn in to concur in Acts that might have terminated in the Ruin and Destruction of their Families, while by illegal Means they are intent on exempting themselves from Evils, within the Remedy of Law of their Country.

These Calamities, I trust, are now removed by the timely Proclamation I sent up to you by my Secretary, and your own prudent Determination is Petition me in Council for the Redress of the Grievances complained of.

of.—The Discreet and Steady Behaviour of Colonel Fanning, and the Officers and Men under his Command, met not only with the Entire Approbation of myself and his Majesty's Council, but will ever be acknowledged with Gratitude by every Inhabitant to this Province.

I take this Opportunity to acquaint all those whose Understandings have been run away with, and whose Passions have been led in Captivity by some evil designing Men, who, actuated by Cowardice and a Sense of that Publick Justice which is due to their Crimes, have obscured themselves from Publick View. That in Consideration of a Determination to abide by my Decision in Council; it is my Direction, by the unanimous Advice of that Board, that you do, from henceforward, Desist from any farther Meetings, either by Verbal Appointment or Advertisement. That all Titles of Regulators or Associators Cease among you. That the Sheriff and other Officers of the Government are Permitted, without Molestation, to Execute the Duties of their respective Offices.— — — — And that all Breaches of the Peace against his Majesty's Government may be Determined and Examined in a due Course of Law.

It is by your strict and punctual Adherence to these Directions, that any farther Clemency, on My Part, may be looked for.

This was the Extent of what I authorized Mr. Edwards to declare on my Behalf.— — — — And now, that I have signified to you the Sense his Majesty's Council Entertain of the Nature of your Proceedings, and the Requisition I Point out, by their Advice, for your future Conduct.

I am to assure you, willing as I am to Listen to the Voice of Distress, the just Complaints of his Majesty's Subjects, and the Hardships they may groan under, that I shall give his Majesty's Attorney-General Orders to prosecute every Officer who has been guilty of Extortion or illegal Practices in his Office, upon any Application or Information lodged with him by the Parties injured,

injured, or any others who shall be authorised to Prosecute on their Behalf. As also, set up a Proclamation on my Arrival at Hillsborough, forbidding all such dishonourable and illegal Proceedings.

You may further depend upon it, I shall, at all times, endeavour to redress every other Grievance in my Power, that his Majesty's Subjects may labour under.

As you want to be satisfied what is the Amount of the Tax for the Publick Service for 1767, I am to inform you, it is Seven Shillings a Taxable, besides the County and Parish Taxes, the Particulars of which I will give to Mr. Hunter.

I have only to add, I shall be up at Hillsborough the Beginning of next Month. In the mean Time I rest in full Confidence I shall again be made happy by seeing Industry prevailing over Faction, and Peace and Harmony triumphing over Jealousies and Murmuring, in a Soil and Climate the most fertile in the World, and among a People, who, by a well directed Industry, may draw down Blessings and Prosperity to their Families, and greatly contribute to the Honour of his Majesty's Government, and the Happiness of my Administration.

WILLIAM TRYON.

At the Council-Chamber,
Brunswick, the 21st of
June, 1768.

Now to give some clear Ideas in what Light we received this Answer, and in what condition we felt ourselves to be in, it is necessary to Inform you the Bottom of our Jealousies, and the Method we intended to Prosecute for Redress.

Our Jealousies were not only against the Officers of our own County, which our Papers are confined to, but in our Converse and Enquiry, by the best Calculations we could make, and by several Hints and Reports, we had Reason to believe we had already paid *Twenty or Thirty Thousand Pounds* over what would sink the Emissions of our Paper Currency. And by Accounts we had still
afloat

afloat *Sixty Thousand Pounds*; so that either our Assembly had been deficient in Burning it, or the Treasurers in Accounting; or else our Sheriffs in Paying the Treasurers: Otherwise some Counties must be vastly in Arrears.

As for our own County, we knew it had Paid to the full.—We were of Opinion there was not one Hundred Insolvents a Year in our County out of from three to four Thousand.—But to Question the Assembly or Treasurers, our Officers took care to chide Us for, and hinted, that it would be even criminal to Suppose such a Thing, for they were men of such Credit: and such a Body, as, were they Guilty, more than one must be Combined; and such a Thing Could not be supposed.—Well, we could not help thinking: So we intended, that if our own Representatives would help us, and we could get a Settlement of our own Officers, and if the Deficiency did not lay there, to proceed and lay the same before the the Assembly, and have the Treasurers Accounts Examined. And if our Assembly-men refused to join with us, then to Petition for new Elections, &c.

Now, by the Time we got this Answer, we found by the Journals of the House, that the Publick Accounts were really unsettled, by a Motion from the Governor to them on that Head; and now we were yet more alarmed, for as we Understood the Motion, he hinted, though in a delicate soft Manner, to have that Authority vested in the Governor.

Well, the more that we discovered Things out of order, we were sensible the stronger we should be opposed; and we not only found by this Answer that the Governor inclined to the other Side, multiplying all our Faults to the highest Pitch he was capable of; and with as great an Extream Painting the other Side;—and without meeting together, which he strictly forbid, and conferring together, we could make no Hand either in Carrying

Carrying Elections, or Representing our Grievances. Our Hands were fast tied from any Relief but the Law, and in that Way had also excused himself from Protecting or Helping us, any farther than to Order the Attorney to set up a Proclamation.

Well, under this Difficulty we stood still, and soon saw the Proclamation had no Effect at all, for the Register, or his Clerk, raised in their Fees Four-pence or Eight-pence; upon which all Hopes of the Law vanished, and every Channel and Passage of Redress was stopped and shut up.—— However, after some time, as we thought, the Governor would expect some Return to his Letter, and this we could not Effect without breaking his Orders, so we appointed a Meeting to agree upon an Answer; and at the Meeting received the following Letter from the Governor, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

“ I N strict Conformity to the Promise I made you in my Letter, dated from the Council-Chamber, at *Brunswick*, I issued a Proclamation on my Arrival at *Hillsborough*, a Copy of which I herewith transmit to you.

“ I also gave Mr. Attorney-General Orders to Prosecute at Law all Publick Officers in your County for Abuses in their Offices, on Application made to him by or in behalf of the Parties injured.

“ It is now therefore by my Advice and Consent, that Mr. *Tyree Harris* wait on you to Proceed in the Collection of the Publick County and Parochial Taxes of *Orange County* for the Year 1767.

“ I have the fullest Confidence that you will, agreeable to the Direction of the above mentioned Letter to you, and in Justice to the Principles of your Engagement to abide my Decision in Council, make it a Matter of Honour and Conscience among yourselves, that Mr. *Harris* and his Deputies

ties shall not meet with any Interruption in so essential and an immediately necessary a Discharge of his Duty, in Obedience to the Laws of this Country.

WILLIAM TRITON."

Hilsborough, August 1st,
1768.

Harris asked for his Levy, ————— and we told him, we had agreed to lay the Case before the Assembly and the Whole of the Council before we chose to Pay; and Nobody offered him the least Insult.

We agreed upon an answer to the Governor's first Letter, and ordered two Men to deliver it to him, which they did the 5th of *August*; but we have lost the Copy. However, the Purport of it may be seen by the Governor's Answer.

But, on *Harris's* Return, the Governor's Officers were out raising the Militia round the Town. And the Militia kept sending Messengers to us, one after another by Night and by Day, what Orders they had received, which was to meet such a Day, which was in a few Days, and to bring three Days Provision and nine Charges of Ammunition. These Alarms run Night and Day, and caused Multitudes of People to gather together, who chose out eight Men, and sent them to the Governor. ——— The men Returned with the following Answer, *Viz.*

"IN the first Place, the Governor Declares, that he never had an Intention to bring down *Indians*, nor of Raising the Militia, in Order to break in upon any Settlement, as has been falsely Represented; and that he again repeats his firm Resolution to do Justice to the People in every Thing wherein they have been injured, as far as is in his Power.

"In the next Place, Colonel *Fanning* agrees, that the Dispute between him and the People shall be Settled at the next Supream Court; that if the
Chief

Chief Justice and his Associates give Judgment against him on the Trial of Mr *John Lowes*; or any other Deed, he is willing and shall refund the full Sum, over his Lawful Fees, which he has taken, to every Man who shall apply to him, bringing his Deed along with him; and that they shall pay no cost.

“ In the next Place, Mr. *Nash* agrees to the same Thing, with Respect to his Clerk's Fees, as he has already wrote to the Regulators.

“ In the last Place, the Accounts of the Sheriffs, with the Vestry and the Court, for the Parish and County Tax, have been Examined, and approved; and when a Settlement is made for the Insolvents, the full State, in the Same Manner, shall be Pasted up in the Court-House.

“ The Governor will give no Directions for the Sheriff to Proceed in his Collection till after the Supream Court.”

At the same Time he appointed the Regulators to meet on the 17th Day of *August*, at *George Sally's*, when the Sheriffs were to attend with their Settlement, and give Satisfaction to the Publick on the said 17th of *August*.

We met, but none of the past Sheriffs came. *John Lea*, the new Sheriff came, and brought a Letter from the Governor, *Viz.*

August 13th, 1768.

GENTLEMEN,

“ I HAD every reasonable Hope that my Letter to you from the Council-Chamber, the 21st of *June*, would have given you not only the most Cordial Satisfaction, but have Prompted you with the most ardent Zeal to have immediately subscribed to every Direction contained therein, conformable to the declared Resolution in your Address to me.

“ It is with a sincere Regret I at this Time reflect on the Disobedient and Ungrateful Return
E you

you have made me, both by your Disregard to every Part of my Direction in the above mentioned Letter, and your Refusal to pay your Publick Levies to Mr. *Harris*, late Sheriff, who demanded them of you on the 2d of this Month, at a General Meeting, in Virtue of his legal Powers, and in Compliance with the Letter I sent you by him, urging the immediate Payment thereof.

“ The Candor with which I treated the rash and precipitate Steps of your past Conduct, and the just Means and effectual Measures I Pointed out for Removing the Causes of complaint, would have given ample Satisfaction to every Man who Petitioned me with an Intention to be satisfied with Justice.

“ By your Letter delivered me the 5th Instant, by Messrs. *Low* and *Hunter*, I have the Mortification to find every Lenient Measure of mine has been Perverted, and the friendly Aid I offered to correct the Abuses in Publick Officers, which it was my Duty to Tender, considered by you as Insufficient.

“ The Force of the Proclamation was to Caution Publick Officers against, and prevent as much as possible Extortion. It is the Province of the Courts of Law to judge and Punish the Extortioner. The Dissatisfaction also you express, that your Address and Papers were not laid before the whole Council is equally groundless, with your Declarations of the Insufficiency of the Proclamation.

“ By his Majesty's Commission and Instruction, three Counsellors make a Board; and with five Members Business may be transacted of the highest Dignity. ——— Whereas six Gentlemen of the Council were present when your Address and Papers were laid before that Board.

“ The Resolutions you have taken to Pitition the Legislative Body is extreamly agreeable to me;
my

any Services on that Occasion shall not be wanting to redress any real Grievances *.

“ It is necessary I should now inform you, in Humanity to your misguided Passion, and in Justice to the Integrity of my Intentions, that you are Pursuing Measures highly Criminal and Illegal; and it is a Circumstance of real Affliction to me, since I consider you as acting upon Principles no less Void of Faith and Honour than inconsistent with every Moral and Religious Duty.

“ You have given Occasion to every Man of Property and Probity, by the open unreserved Menaces you have thrown out against the Lives and Properties of many of the Inhabitants of this County, to look on your Designs as bent rather upon destroying the Peace of this Government, and the Security of its Inhabitants, than a Wish or Intention to wait for any Legal Process against those you imagine have Abused their Publick Trusts.

“ Upon these alarming Prospects, I esteem it my Duty to provide for the Safety of the Government, and to take Care that the Publick Receive no Damage; to prevent therefore as much as possible the heavy Expence that must accrue to the Province by Providing against the Insults that are intended to be offered to his Majesty's Superior Court of Justice, I am Peremptorily to require on your Part, that at least twelve of your Principals, and those of the first Property, wait upon me at *Salisbury*.

* This far relates to our Letter, which Copy we have Lost; but the Purport, as I hinted before, may be gathered from the Answer, and what I will now Observe; That is, we did not complain that there was not a sufficient Number to do Business, but that our thanks would been more, had he called the whole Council; and we not only thought so, but likewise both thought and expected he would have called the Assembly on the Occasion. Which we now recommended, in order to strengthen him to help us.

lisbury, on *Thursday* the 25th of this Month, and there in my Presence Execute a Bond in the Sum of *One Thousand Pounds*, as a Security that no Rescue shall be made of *William Butler* and *Hermon Husband* at the Superior Court at *Hillsborough*, they being under Recognizance then to appear and take their Trials.

WILLIAM TRYON."

We sent him the following Answer, *viz.*

August 19th, 1768.

May it Please your Excellency,

WE received your Letter by the Hand of Mr. *Lea*, at the only Time that ever our Officers shewed any real Intentions of informing us to what Uses our Money is applied, and at a Time when we had Hopes and were perswaded Matters were likely to be settled to the Peace and Satisfaction of the Publick.

But finding by your Letter, that your Excellency is displeas'd, and Charges us with Breach of Honour, and that we have Given Occasion to be looked on as rather bent upon Destroying the Peace of this Government than to Wait for Justice.

At all which we are truly Effected with Sorrow, and Concern at the Thoughts of any Difference arising between your Excellency and us, and that (as through false Reports and Alarms, the Commonalty, under Oppression, have been Incens'd, and Occasion given) we determine to use our utmost Endeavours to guard against such Offences for the future.

Amidst our Sorrow, we are rejoiced in this, to find that your Excellency is agreeable to our Resolutions to Petition the Legislative Body, which is Generally agreed on.

As to the Demand for Security, not to Rescue the Prisoners, we beg that it may be considered, that the Alarms or Raising Men and Indians to Cut off the Inhabitants of this County

us Rebels, when they knew in their Hearts ~~and~~ Consciences they were guilty of no other Crime but Endeavouring to obtain Justice and Detect Fraudulent Practices in the Offices, which has been so Common in this Province, that it is mentioned in Many Acts of Assembly made to Remedy the same; which Constantly prove unsuccessful, and we Conceive Ever will be so,——until the Publick is Encouraged to assist and help by Complaining and Producing Matters of Fact against the Particulars.——Now these Alarms were thought by the most Considerate to be without good Grounds,——and such interposed, moderated and Pacified the Whole;——and those, it is likely, may be looked on as the Principals or Leading men.——And such as these will ever use the same Care, and will, no Doubt, be always able to govern the Multitude by Reason;——And yet, not one of them would be willing to enter into Bonds, for the Noise of such a Step would be likely to hinder their Influence.

Moreover, there never was any intent to Rescue the Prisoners, but to beg the Governor to Dissolve the Assembly: And so far as we know the Minds of the People in general, this one Step alone would at once Stop every Mouth and every Complaint but what would go through, and by way of such Representatives as should then be Chosen.

As the Governor may observe by the Detail of all our Proceedings, that it was the Representatives Refusing us a Conference, and threatening us for Requesting one, and frightening and Detering us from Petitioning for Redress, that first gave Occasion for Disorder;——therefore, as the Stopping the free Passage of this Channel for Relief has Occasioned the Obstruction of good Order,

er, so the Opening of which Passage will as
redly Restore it again.

Signed, in Behalf of the Regulators, by

JAMES HUNTER,
PETER JULIAN,
THOMAS WELBURN.

If it was false before, that the Governor did not Attempt to Raise the Militia, it was true now; for finding he could not trust the Militia of our County, he try'd all over the Province; and with what Pains, and false Representations of us is best known to the Inhabitants every where among whom he applied.——It was said, he Represented us as a Faction of *Quakers and Baptists*, who aimed to overthrow the *Church of England, &c.*

This Caused Us to View ourselves, when we found our Body to consist Promiscuously of all Sects, and the Men who we put most trust in were of the Church of England Communion. In short, every honest Man who was not deterred by Fear and Cowardice was on our Side. The formality of Subscribing Articles or Swearing had never been in Use since the Governor's Secretary met us; and to prevent Mobs and Riots was our Chief Study, as they were the only Thing that we feared our Enemies could get an Advantage against us in, and what we believe they Endeavoured to Drive the Populace to.

All this Preparation of the Governor's put us to it for a while to Rule the Inconsiderate, they looking on it, as the Governor 'hoſe the Sword, that they were at Liberty to Defend themselves; and the Prisoners, they were afraid to trust to a Trial, lest they might Hang them by an Arbitrary Power;——So it was at length agreed the Prisoners should not appear, and every Man to be left at his Liberty to go to the Court as well armed or not as he Pleas'd; but not to use them

them nor offer the Least Insult, unless an Attempt was made to Massacre us; and that if they could not offer such Terms as the Governor and Country could come to an Agreement in Peace, to return home, and leave the Governor to fight the Air.

We had very little good Opinion of the Governor now; for when the Secretary agreed we should Petition the Governor, and we had Advertised it, and for them who had material Grievances to get them Attested before a Magistrate, yet the Officers, when they found their Mistake, as I mentioned before, soon scared all the Magistrates but one, that they would give no Person his Qualification. And though, when *Hunter* mentioned this in the Council, at *Brunswick*, the Reply was, that it was a weak Thing in them to act so; yet this one who had served us was now so talked to by the Governor himself, that he refused also.

The Governor soon found he could not trust the Militia, they were so generally Attached to our Side.——So he Swore every Man with an odd Kind of an Oath;—and in many Places the Inhabitants, being so alarmed, took our Method, and Assembled themselves together to Consult one another what to do; and some put their Resolutions in Writing, *viz.*

Orange County, August the 19th, 1768.

“ **T**HE critical Affairs in Publick has caused us to meet to consult what is our Duty.——We have been warned to go against a Set of People called Regulators, under the Term of being Enemies. But we look on them as loyal Subjects, Acting for the Good of our Country.——Until they are Proved Enemies, we don't think it our Duty to go against them.——We hear a Rumour of being fined for not appearing against these our Brethren and Neighbours, which we desire to Ap-
pose

we until it Can be made appear it is our Duty
 ———— and their Articles are proved contrary to
 Law. ———— And we design to Apply to his Ex-
 cellency, our Governor, to hear our Grievances
 in Case we are fined.”

By the Date and Purport of this Paper, it
 looks as though there had been Truth in these
 Alarms mentioned in our last Letter, Dated this
 same Day, which we have therein allowed to
 have been false. ——— I never observed this before
 I was Preparing it for the Press.

Morris Moore, one of our Associate Judges, hav-
 ing Encouraged the Regulators to stand firm to
 the Cause, in a Manner I suppose every honest
 Man in the Province would have desired to have
 done if they were not frightened out of it, as
 was attempted on *Moore*, as may be seen by his
 Letter to Colonel *Fanning*.

Spring-field, August, the 12th, 1768.

To Colonel EDMOND FANNING.

Dear Sir,

“ AS much as I hate Writing, I am de-
 termined to Scratch this Side down, with
 a bad Pen and worse Ink, on the Subject of
 the Insurrection in your County, which I am Sor-
 ry to hear has grown formidable, and much more
 so that it is ascribed to me as its Author and
 Encourager.

“ I have been Calumniated before now, but
 never So Capitally as in this Case.

“ I assure you it gives me much Concern, in
 Spight of the Consolation a clear Conscience
 affords me.

“ I never knew or even saw, as I know of,
 in all my Life, any Man or Men concerned in
 this unlucky Affair, except *Hunter* and *Hewell*;
 and

and I made you fully acquainted with the Advice I gave them: But I shall say no more on this Head. I have blackned my Page, and must conclude my Letter with assuring you, I Esteem you, and am,

Your most Obedient, &c.

M. M O O R E.

On the first Day of the Supream Court, which was at *Hillborough*, on the 22d Day of *September*, 1768, we appeared about Three Thousand Seven Hundred, and took up about half a Mile from the Town, and sent our Proposals to the Governor; which was; That if he would let us peaceably come into Town to Complain of our Officers, and Pardon all past Breaches of the Peace, (except the two under Bail, who would Stand their Trials) we would Pay our Levies as Usual, &c.

Now we knew of no other Concession he could want of Us.—But the next Day he sent his Answer, That every Man must give up his Gun in Pledge, till the Prisoners were tried; upon which we immediately returned, except about thirty, who carried him their Guns.

As to the Proceedings of the Court, we being debarred from being there, can give you no better Information than that one of the Prisoners drew up in Vindication of his own Case.—

Only we may add, that a whole Troop of Bomb Sheriffs came after us next Day to take such as they had Orders for back; and where they meet with quiet peaceable Men, they went along, but some of a contrary Disposition used some of them very rough. All those who went along, the Bills were all found *Ignoramus*.

The case of *Hermon Husband*, Prisoner, aforesaid, is as follows;

On the second Day of *May*, a little after Sun-
F rise,

rife, ten or a dozen Men, armed with Guns and Pistols, entered the back Door of my House;— and *Thomas Hart*, took hold of me, and said, You are the King's prisoner.

I asked, upon what Account.—— He said, on Suspicion of having a Hand in the Mob.

They hurried me off, without letting my Wife fetch me some money; when I called to her for Some;——In about two Miles they come up to where Colonel *Fanning*, was waiting for them.—— He asked me, flutteringly, and with visible Confusion, Why I did not come to see him in so long a time.——I told him I new no call I had.—— He said, Well, you'll come along now.——I said, I suppose I must.——He said, ay; well,——and set off to Town, where *William Butler* and I were put into a Fort, mounted with two Swivel Guns, under a strong Guard; and after some Hours took me out before *Thomas Loyd*, who read a Paper of some Body having informed, there was cause of Suspicion, that I had a Hand in the mob.

I told him I had not.——Then he Swore Colonel *Fanning*, who said, he formerly had received a Paper, summoning him to appear at a Mill, and he thought it was my Hand;——And he had received papers from the Mob, which referred to that Paper.

Then *John Hogen* was swore;——who said, I had confessed I had been at some Meetings of the Mob.

Thomas Loyd then ordered me to Prison; and *William Butler* was put in with me, where we lay till about Midnight, when we were taken out, and tied Hand and Foot; and many telling us we would be hanged, *Butler* especially, if I escaped.——It came into my Mind, that if I made Colonel *Fanning* some Promises he would let me go.——So, on my Motion, he was sent for, who signified to me he had been asleep, and was called

ed and told I wanted to see him, and he had come to see what I wanted with him.

Says I, if I may go Home, I will promise not to concern myself any more whether you take too large Fees or not, &c. ——— It took with him ; and, after humming a little, he repeated over what I must promise ; which, as near as I can remember, was to this Effect :

“ You promise never to give your Opinion of the Laws, ——— nor frequent assembling yourself among People ——— nor shew any Jealousies of the Officers taking extortionary Fees ; ——— and if you hear any others speaking disrespectfully, or hinting any Jealousies of that Nature, of Officers, that you will reprove and caution them ; and that you will tell the People you are satisfied all the Taxes are agreeable to Law, ——— and do every Thing in your Power to moderate and pacify them.”

All which I promised, with a particular Exception, that when any Election was on Hand, I reserved Liberty to assemble myself among People, and to have Liberty to converse : ——— And to this he said, To be sure.

This was so barefac'd, that as there was twenty or thirty of the Country People to guard us, I looked every Minute to see them cry out, and release us *.

But

* I was not so much mistaken here in the People as I was afterwards informed ; for they had Messengers coming and going all Night, carrying Intelligence to the Country below Town, who were gathering in Companies on every Part of the Road to watch their Motions ; for there were People below Town who had been led into the Secret of their Designs, which was absolutely to Hang two or three of us, at all Events, to scare the Rest. ——— And these Plans were laid down before, and these Orders sent up for our Officers to bring down two or three of us. They had attempted this same Thing before

But *Faning* went and walked to and fro a few Minutes by himself; then came to us, and said, we must enter into Bail:—So some of themselves bailed me; and took me for *Buttler's* Bail. —But they had exceeding hard Work before *Buttler* would consent;—when they told him very seriously, that if he went to *Newbern* he actually would be hanged.—He paused a while, and said, I have but one Life, and I freely can give that up for this Cause; for, God above knows, our Cause is just. And he did not consent at last till *Faning* promised to clear him at the Court, without Cost.

It was now Day-break, and about Sun-rise we got the Recognizances done, and was hurried away to stop the People from coming after us.

Now when the Governor and Country fell out, and he got to inlusting and swearing Men,—and *Morris Moore's* Letter was handed about to shew he was scar'd, I concluded to sell my Land, and raise Money to clear my Bail, and so leave the Province; for I was now left alone; the Regulators, some of them insulted me, that if I did not join now, they would let the Governor do as he pleased with me.

I was

fore, while *Faning* was below in a more formidable Manner; for they had ordered several Captains below Town to have Companies under them on the Road at several Stages, and appointed a Muster above Town; at which Muster they were to pick out such a Number as were suitable, and go and take two or three, and with all Speed convey them below Town, and deliver them to these fresh Companies staged there, to prevent being overtaken. Nothing but the Baseness of their Design could have given them such Suspicions of being followed.—However, some cute Fellow, at the Muster above Town, raised a Report, that Three Hundred Regulators were seen to cross *Haw-River* that Morning; and the Companies, Officers and all, each took his own Road, and made the best of their way Home.

I was for my Safety obliged to abscond from them as well as the Governor, and took the Woods for two Weeks, and had got fifteen Miles from my Habitation, and had sent for my Horse, Clothes and Money, to set off in a Day or two.

———This Messenger, luckily for the Province, met *John Wilcocks* at my House;——and my Wife ventured to inform him where he might see me.—He gave me Encouragement to stand Trial, by assuring me, a great Number of good honest Gentlemen was coming up to see that Justice should be done; and among the rest a Lawyer.

Wilcocks left me at *John Pyle's*, while he and *Pyle* went to Town to see if the Lawyer, or any of them had come: But *Fanning* could tell them the Lawyer was not a coming; and ordered him and *Pyle* out of Town.

Upon this, *Wilcocks* was almost outdone; but engaged me to stay till he rid down to Cross-creek to meet, or hear what had become of them.—He never returned till the Night before Court, and heard nothing of his Lawyer, or Friends; but by fair Promises from some of the Council and head Officers, and the King's Attorney, that I should get Justice, he would have me venture; and had Orders from the Attorney-General for me not to come in to Town, but to stay among the Regulators till he came out to us.

After the Attorney general had come out, the Regulators would not let me go into Town, unless every Body had Liberty to go, as usual in all courts;——and *Wilcocks* being discouraged, consented to let me go off; and when it was dark he accompanied me some of the Way, but as soon as we got from among the Croud, he rid on before very silent some time, and claped his hand on his thigh, and cries out aloud, The Lord have Mercy on me, the whole Province is undone! good God;—that ever I was born!

This, and the like, he repeated several Times after Intervals of Silence.

I waited

I waited to hear if he would reflect any thing on me; but when I found he did not, and being convinced his Sight of the advantage my going away would give our Enemies, I consulted in myself what to do: I had no Point to determine, but whether to risk my Life or not; here was the Ruin of the Province for certain put in one Scale, a Risk of losing my Life by false Arbitrary Proceedings in the other; and the Safety of the Privileges and the Liberties of the People soon outweighed:————So I rid up a little nearer to *Wilcocks*, and waited till he gave another Cry to lament the Case; then I asked him, if he was of the Mind I had best stand Trial yet;————he says, Yes, and I will go with you and stand by you to the last;————which I sincerely believe he was confident at that Time to perform, as *Peter* ever was. And I also confided in him that I had one Friend.

But now again, after we took up Camp, and spent great Part of the night in telling him how they had Carried on Matters, and he viewing, I suppose, what he had seen, got a Sight that a Snare was laid for my Life, which he put to me, to let him know if I had any Apprehension that way, that he would by no Means be the Cause of perswading me into any Danger of that kind.

I told him not to say a Word on that Head, for my resolutions was fixed, and had I more than one Life to loose they were unalterable.

When we came into Town next Morning, before an Hour, I clearly discovered by *Wilcocks's* countenance, that he was scared;————but Death nor nothing else could now alter my Resolutions to stand the Test: And *Wilcocks* made a Motion to me to see a Lawyer. And when I went to them, in this Condition, for though my Senses remained good, yet Property felt to me of no value; for, (it is a very true Saying, That all a Man has he will

will give for his Life) they soon got all the Money I had, and Bonds and Notes for 150 £. more.

But when *Wilcocks* came to know I had given so much, he called me Fool; and seemed grieved; ——— from which I was in hopes he had got over his Fright.

But the Next Morning I received the following Letter from him, by the Hand of a ragged Boy whom I knew not, *viz.*

To Mr. HUSBAND.

Sep. 23d, at Mr. Cate's.

SIR,

I HAVE been ordered out of Town, under Pretence of being concerned with the Regulators, which probably may surprize you again; but I hope you will take Resolution, and not be scared by our Enemy, which is their only Scheme to defeat us; but you may depend I shall send Somebody in to be your Security, in Case a Bill should be found against you.

Sir, Your sincere Friend and humble Servant,

JOHN WILCOCKS.

Now I had not one Friend left; and I rid some Miles out into the Country, to get some word sent to my own neighbourhood, if possible, to get some of them to come and be Evidences for me, as well as to prosecute Officers; for I equally saw our Cause lost if we did not make Something appear this court against them.

There I met with another Letter from *Wilcocks*, to the Attorney-General, by which I found I need look for no help from that Quarter; for any Trust that he put in Attorney-General I was
now

now perswaded would fail. The Letter was as follows.

September, 1768:

To Mr. M^cGUIRE, Attorney-General.

SIR,

THIS serves to inform you, there was Occasion for my leaving Town in a few Minutes Warning.—I must think I ~~am~~ very ill rewarded for all the Fatigue and Care, with the Risk of my Life and Estate, in order and for no other End but to accommodate so dangerous a Dispute.

As I had no other Occasion to be Security for *Husband* but to prevent Mischief, you, with the Court, cannot be unacquainted with my Industry in the Matter, and of their Encouragement to me for that Purpose, which I faithfully acted, as far as capable: However Envy and Malice may represent me to the Governor or Court, I am ready to answer for when called on. That you wont let me suffer for my good Intent,—and encourage *Husband* to stand his Ground till I am released of his Security; and if he is found guilty, that Security may be found for him till Trial.

Sir, Your humble Servant,

JOHN WILCOCKS.

It was on a *Sunday* that I got this Letter, having as I said rid out some Miles to send to my own Neighbourhood, but was obliged to get a Pass before I could go out of Town. I could not even walk the Streets about the Court-House without being Insulted at every Turn. The Soldiers thrusting their Bayonets at me within a few Inches of my Body, and dragging me once into a Publick-House, setting me upon a Table, and surrounding me with a Ring, made Sport of

of me, which after a half or quarter of an Hour at least, I observed *John Asb*, who was the Commanding Officer, reach forth his Hand to push some of them from me, and says, Hold, don't carry the joke too far.

I caught hold of his Sleeve, and when he looked on me, I asked him if I was at liberty.— Says he, You have been under no Confinement. Then I pushed my Way through them; and to help Mr. *Asb's* Memory, as I hear he denies this, he came to me in the Street, and asked me, why I had asked him if I was at liberty.— Because, says I, *John Wilcocks* had told me thou was the Commanding Officer.

The Pass was as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

PERMIT *Mr. Hermon Husband* to pass your Guard and Centinels. I am,

Sir, your most humble Servant,

THOMAS LOYD, Major-General.

To the Officer of the
Guard, at the West
End of *Hilborough*,
Saturday Noon.

The following is the Qualification of *Peter Savory*, who, at this Campaign bore the Title of Captain *Savory*, for I had observed him to Look at some of the Soldiers.

His Evidence is as follows, *viz.*

Orange County, ss. } **T**HIS Day came *Peter Savory* before me, and made Oath, That at last *September* Superior Court he
G saw

saw several young Men a pushing their Bayonets towards *Hermon Husband*, but did not know them to touch him. Certified under my Hand, this 25th Day of *March*, 1769.

JOHN PRYOR.

On *Mendy* Morning two or three of my Neighbours had come ; and as soon as Court sat, Colonel *Faxing* accused me of Crimes committed since I had entered into the Recognizances, and signified they were of so high a Nature as concerned my Life.

Hereupon I was committed to Prison.——— And the first Salutation I received from the Prisoners, was their Pointing to a Gallows, erected between two Joyces of the Prison, right over the middle of the Floor ; and the Prison was new built, of a higher Pitch than usual, and fortified round.

Here were nine or ten Prisoners, Most on account of the Regulation, and the Prison so little, that we could not all lay down at once. The Remembrance of what I had read of Inquisitions, East-India Imprisonments, &c. was now very fresh in my Mind.

At Night *William Butler* and me were sent for ; and there were some men procured to be our Bail ; ———but when I got out I found my Neighbours and Evidences were all gone. If property was of ~~no~~ Value to me before, it was less now. I looked ~~on~~ myself as a Captive among Enemy Indians, Nabobs, or Lord Inquisitors. I try'd the ~~Lawyers~~, whether they were fond of greater Obligations ; and, as I hinted before, my Senses was good enough ; and I remembered the story of the Beaver, that when he was chased for his Stones, cut them out, and threw them away. So I gave them what Notes or Bonds they pleased to write ; for I never read or examined a Word in them.

At next Superior Court, before my Trial came on, these Obligations were demanded of me ; but
I de-