

by above three hundred persons (several of whom were men of property) and obliged to engage not to act in his office.

At Providence, a Gazette Extraordinary was published, on the 24th of August, with vox POPULI, vox DEI, in large letters, for the frontispiece; and underneath, *Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty.* St. Paul.—It congratulated them on the spirit of opposition that had already been shewn in divers parts of North America; and went on in these words: “We have glorious accounts from all parts, of the noble spirit of the people in the cause of liberty,” and concluded an address to the people of New England, thus: “Let me draw towards a conclusion, by observing the universal spirit which now prevails thro’ the colonies, to take all *lawful* measures to prevent the execution of the stamp act here. This laudable zeal hath burst into a flame in Boston, and the exertions of the people in that ancient town, who have heretofore been obliged to struggle for their liberties; when infamously attacked, as their their history shews, plainly indicate that the spirit of their fathers rest upon them, and that they preserve in their breasts the noble sensations of freedom.”

The flame now ran from province to province, and the spirit of opposition was almost universal; Mr. Ingersoll, stamp officer of Connecticut, had sent to Wyndham to a person whom he had appointed to be his deputy, to come to him at New Haven, to receive his commission; but the inhabitants at Wyndham, having knowledge of the letter he had received, surrounded his house, demanded the letter from him, and warned him not to accept the office, which so terrified him, that the very same post he sent back an absolute

refusal of taking the charge upon him.

The same fate awaited his principal at New Haven, whose resignation of the place of stamp officer was printed in the Boston Post Boy of Aug. 24, in the following words:

*To the good People of CONNECTICUT,*

“When I undertook the office of distributor of stamps for this colony, I meant a service to you, and really thought you would have viewed it in that light, when you came to understand the nature of the stamp act, and that of the office; but since it gives you so much uneasiness, you may be assured, if I find (after the act takes place, which is the first of November) that you shall not incline to purchase or make use of any stamp paper, I shall not force it upon you, nor think it worth my while to trouble you or myself with any exercise of my office; but if by that time I shall find you generally in much need of the stamp paper, and very anxious to obtain it, I shall hope you will be willing to receive it of me (if I shall happen to have any) at least until another person more agreeable to you can be appointed in my room.

“I cannot but wish you would think more how to get rid of the stamp act, than of the officers who are to supply you with paper, and that you had learnt more of the nature of my office before you had undertaken to be so very angry at it.”

*New Haven,*

J. INGERSOLL.

*Aug. 1765.*

This resignation was much applauded, but seems rather to have been the effect of fear, than a hearty desire of complying with the temper of the times; for, when the people assembled round his house, and demanded, whether he intended to act in that office, or resign, he answered,