

and dignity, with which those attempts have been met, and the temper and moderation with which you have vindicated the respect due to the tribunals of our country.

In ordinary times we might not have deemed it necessary on an occasion of your temporary absence from the judgment seat to address you in this public manner, but these, Sir, are not ordinary times, and we feel it incumbent upon us thus to step forward, and proclaim our utter abhorrence of the proceedings of a certain party in this town, calculated as, we know they are, to distract our hitherto peaceful community, to endanger the tranquillity of the Island generally, and which in our opinion will, if not repressed, eventually lead to the subversion of all law and order, and while we express our abhorrence of these proceedings, we declare it to be our fixed determination to sustain, by every means in our power, the legally constituted authorities of the land, and to preserve, in all their purity, the laws by which we are governed. In presenting you with this tribute of our respect, we cannot give better proof of the sincerity of our sentiments than by offering to you our best wishes for a safe and pleasant voyage to England, and an earnest hope that you may speedily return to us in good health, to resume that seat which you have hitherto occupied with honour to yourself and advantage to the public.

Signed by 579 Merchants and other inhabitants of St. John's