

6-7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

you for that express purpose; And, as far as appears to us, not complying with another additional instruction¹ sent you therewith, for regulating and preventing an abuse introduced by your predecessor, of doing the business of Council by a select number of the Members, under the name of a privy Council; yet the not paying obedience to express Instructions, the compliance with which rested with yourself only, is a matter of too serious importance for us not to give you our unreserved opinion upon it.

The instructions in question were founded upon the most convincing necessity, and his Majesty's Pleasure was conveyed in terms so peremptory and express, that we are at a loss to conceive, how it was possible for you to hesitate upon an instant obedience to them: had we only consulted our immediate line of duty, we should have submitted to His Majesty our opinion upon this conduct on your part; but as a proof of our good wishes for you, and that we place the utmost confidence in your assurances, that your views, as well in the Civil as the Military Affairs of the province, have no end, but his Majesty's Service; however we conceive you to have been in this instance mistaken, we have adopted this Method to inform you, what we think of this part of your Conduct, as Civil Governor; and as we persuade ourselves, that you will immediately, upon the receipt of this letter, comply with the said instructions, we forbear to add what we must upon a contrary Conduct of necessity do.

We flatter ourselves, that no spirit of party, private views, or resentments in any of his Majesty's Subjects over whom you preside, will so far prevail, as to interrupt that peace and harmony which we sincerely wish may always subsist between the powers governing and the People governed, in every part of His Majesty's Dominions.

We are,
Sir,
Your Most Humble,
Servants
Grantham
Thomas de Grey Jun^r
And^m Stuart
E. Gibbon
Hans. Sloane
Ben: Langlois

Whitehall
April 10. 1781

Ex^d

¹ See p. 704.