

conquest? What advantage was it to *us* when they seized Rhode Island, on its being evacuated by the British forces, and fortified it for themselves *? Instances like these need no comment. And trust me, the *people* of America, however infatuated and abused, may soon be awakened to a sense of feeling and resenting their wrongs. Delay not then to make that *now* your *own* act, which may otherwise be done without the *form* of asking your consent. Break this infamous, this *accursed league* with France, before it is broken by the vindictive rage of that people, for whose benefit alone you are invested with power; to whom *you dare not deny yourselves to be accountable* for the exercise of it; and before whose awful tribunal you may soon be summoned to answer for your conduct. Act like *true patriots*, while the power of directing public measures *still* remains. Let this campaign put an *end* to hostilities between Britain and America; propose such terms of accommodation as may be consistent with our rights and our dignity to offer, and with her's to accept. If they are rejected, and nothing but unconditional submission will satisfy, defend yourselves wherever you are attacked; resolve rather *to die in the last dike*, than

* It appears that they have acted in the same manner at York-town and Gloucester in Virginia; and it is highly probable they will keep possession of that province, unless they can be driven out by the united force of Britain and America.

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