

* If you have no regard to the connection that has for ages subsisted between us ; if you have forgot the wounds we received fighting by your side, for the extension of the empire ; if our commerce is an object below your consideration ; if justice and humanity have lost their influence on your hearts, still motives are not wanting to excite your indignation at the measures now pursued : your wealth, your honour, your liberty are at stake.

Notwithstanding the distress to which we are reduced, we sometimes forget our own afflictions to anticipate and sympathize in yours. We grieve that rash and inconsiderate councils should precipitate the destruction of an empire, which has been the envy and admiration of ages ; and call God to witness, that we would part with our property, endanger our lives, and sacrifice every thing but Liberty, to redeem you from ruin.

A cloud hangs over your heads and ours ; e'er this reaches you, it may probably have burst upon us ; let us then (before the remembrance of former kindness is obliterated) once more repeat those appellations which are ever grateful in our ears. Let us entreat heaven to avert our ruin, and the destruction that threatens our friends, brethren, and countrymen on the other side of the Atlantic.

By Order of the CONGRESS,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Attested by

CHARLES THOMPSON, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, July 8, 1775.