

The additional Satisfaction which your Excellency is pleased to express at meeting us, now that the late vacant Seats are occupied, and thereby the Representation of the People at large rendered complete, furnishes us with a fresh Instance, in Addition to many before experienced and indelibly stamped on our Minds, of your scrupulous Regard for, and Protection of, the Rights and Liberties of the Inhabitants of this Island, and your steady Adherence to the fundamental Principles of the Constitution, under which we have at this Time the Happiness to be assembled.

At this interesting Period of Public Commotion abroad, and whilst so many Thousands are suffering under the Calamities of War, we cannot be sufficiently grateful for the Enjoyment of that local Tranquility and Security, which, under Divine Providence, has been afforded this Island, by the Protection and Influence of his Majesty's Arms, as well as for that condescending Notice and encouraging Attention which has been paid to the Defence of this Town by his Royal Highness Prince Edward. And we beg Leave to assure your Excellency, that it is our earnest Desire to improve those fortunate Circumstances by a close Attention to the enacting such salutary Laws, and concerting such judicious Measures, as may be thought most conducive to the mutual Interest of his Majesty's Service, and the Prosperity of this Island—the progressive Advancement of which is evident, from the Aspect of the Country in Point of Cultivation and Improvement, as well as from the general Benefit arising by the large annual Exports of Wheat black Cattle, and other valuable Articles.

The erecting of a Church in this Town for the more devout and public Worship of Almighty God, we have seen with the greatest Pleasure advance so far by private Subscription, and acknowledge that it merits our serious Attention.— And whilst contemplating our Duty in this Particular, we assure your Excellency, that we shall not neglect that which we owe to the rising Generation; but endeavour to make some Provision for the Establishment of a public School—as the Benefits and Advantages of a liberal Education are justly acknowledged to be the principal Source and Basis of the Happiness of every People.

When the Public Accounts come before us, every Measure, consistent with our Duty, shall be duly attended to, and Ways and Means devised of doing Justice to the Demands of Public Creditors.

And now permit us to assure your Excellency of the warmest Solitude on our Part, to concur in every Measure calculated to promote the Prosperity and Happiness of his Majesty's Subjects on this Island, and our cordial and hearty Wishes for the Ease and Honor of your Excellency's Administration.

JOHN STEWART, Speaker.

Assembly Room, February 5, 1796.

The House having returned, the Speaker reported, That his Excellency was pleased to make the following Answer:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I RETURN you my sincerest Thanks for an Address so expressive of your Loyalty and Affection to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and his Royal and illustrious Family, and of your Zeal for his Majesty's Interest, and Attachment to his Government.

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