

c. s. c. their conduct with any Public Body that has not authority to interfere in our Provincial concerns and to w^{ch} we are not accountable. That the readiness, with w^h this Province on a late occasion ordered some companies of their minute men down to their Eastern Shore Counties of Virginia for their protection, and the readiness disposition the Council of Safety have on every occasion demonstrated to cooperate with their colony in every measure proposed by them will evince to the world their regard for the Safety & Welfare of that Colony and clear the convention from the unjust imputation of having promoted Gov^r Edens passage to assist in the destruction of the Colony of Virg^a under pretence of his returning to England. I have not the letter or what they call the address to Gov^r Eden here but by what I recollect of it I think they may be told that the Council cannot conceive the letter or address to Gov^r Eden can support or justify him in assuming any Public character or enable him to promote any measures that may tend to disunite the Colonies, or be productive of the danger apprehended to the Common cause of America. N. B. Would it not be proper to omit the address. If you incline to say any thing in the clause in the Resolves relating to the reasons assigned for his departure, you may I think well tell him, that when we consider that the president of the Council of State on whom by act of Assembly of this Province in the absence of the Governor the Government is to devolve, is a native of the Province and his connexions, fortune and family in it, we cannot apprehend he will consider himself under equal obligations to execute the ministerial mandates, with a Governor who is a native of England, & who has his family connexions, and fortune in that Country, or if he should unfortunately, be equally ready to obey them—do we apprehend that he will have equal influence or power to carry any measures proposed by them into execution, We therefore are persuaded the convention acted with the greatest discretion & prudence in continuing the Government in its old and at present established form till they should themselves be convinced that there was no probability of a reconciliation with Great Britain and should find themselves under an absolute necessity of altering it, and we are convinced that in their proceedings they were neither deceived by any professions of friendship to Am^a made by Gov^r Eden, or influenced by any dependance or proprietary power, but actuated by strict justice and honour only, and we are satisfied their conduct has met with the approbation of their constituents, who we are convinced will treat in a manner becoming their good sense, and spirit, every attempt of any external provincial Body whatsoever that may presume to dictate to them or to interfere with the administration of Government or internal