

c. s. c. sitous as they do in this county, which seems to be for no other purpose than to distress the needy (for what end?) to make the war in which we are engaged more irksome, occasion the people to mutineer and create divisions among them, these are the ends they answer. May just vengeance fall on the heads of all such traitors. The success of Howe's arms when near Philadelphia has unmasked many of our leaders here, which I'me sorry its in my power with truth to say of them, and could with truth say a great deal more to the discredit of our once leaders, which for the present must decline as time will not permit. To conclude, I've thus far given you a true discription of Colston's case, and some of the conduct of our county men, and by which you may the easier judge of the unhappy situation of the people of this shore, must beg your patience a little further while I inform you, that if you should send summons's for those Caroline men to be brought before you on M^r Chamberlaine's charge against them, I know not where it will end, especially with that Gentleman and his tory assistants, for there are not less than 3 or 400 men who have pledged their faith to each other to go at an hour's warning, and at the risk of their lives and fortunes not only release those men, but be revenged of those who occasioned such injuries to be done them, which I really believe is the truth.

I therefore hope your Hon^{rs} of the two evils will choose the least, let it pass over, as no one is injured by this conduct yet, and lest it excite more devisions among us than we already have, which are too much encouraged by crafty, designing men, against whom we ought always to be prepared to defend ourselves, by being as unanimous in all our public undertakings as possible, which is the sincere wish of Gentleman,

Your very humble Servant
John Gibson

N. B. Among other facts in the state of M^r Colston within, its set forth that M^r Chamberlaine's Trustee was not at home, which is wrong. He was at home, but sick, which occasioned his wife to act.

J. G.

To The Council of Safety. Annapolis.

[John Ghiselin to Council.]

Frederick Town M^d Jan^y 4th 1777.

Gentlemen.

I find my health so much impared by the late Campaign, that I am unable to render my country the services which I ought in honour, shou'd I continue to accept of the Commission with which I have been honoured This with some other