

certed measures to introduce them? Can you think it the most proper season to do me good by your admonitions, when you have taken care to let the world know you are out of frame and filled with the last prejudice against my person and government? Surely you do but insult me and take pains to weaken my hands; and how much it savors of faction and sedition is easy to see.

“It is vain to pretend Christian love and respect, or zeal for the honor of God, or public good; vain to pretend pressures of conscience just at this season. Every one can see through the pretence, and is able to account for the spring of these letters, and how they would have been prevented, without easing any grievances you complain of.

“Really, gentlemen, conscience and religion are things too solemn, venerable, or sacred, to be played with, or made a covering for actions so disagreeable to the gospel, as these, your endeavors to expose me and my most faithful services to contempt; nay, to unhinge the government, to withdraw the Queen’s liege people from that duty and subjection, which the laws of our holy religion do enjoin. I cannot but commend to your serious thoughts these faithful admonitions (ix. Luke, 55), (iv. Ephesians, 31), (ii. Phil. 3, 4), (i. Sam. ii. 3).

“After all, though I have reason to complain to heaven and earth, of your un-Christian rashness and wrath and injustice, I would yet maintain a Christian temper towards you. I do, therefore, now assure you, that I shall be ready to give you all the satisfaction Christianity requires in those points which are proper for you to seek, or to receive it in, when, with a proper temper and spirit, giving me timely notice, you do see meet to make me a visit for that end. And I expect the same satisfaction from you. The articles are so many, contained in your letters, that it would be endless to labor your satisfaction by writing, which you must not further expect from me.

“In the mean time, I expect you, as subjects to the Queen, as Christians, as messengers of the gospel of peace, to lay aside all methods that tend to blow up sedition or abet such criminal reports of mal-administration, as tend to debauch the minds of her majesty’s good subjects of this province from their duty and allegiance. I desire you will keep your station and let fifty or sixty good ministers, your equals in the province, have a share in the government of the college, and advise thereabouts, as well as yourselves; and I hope all will be well.