

its well taken as a Caution shall be infinitely glad, which will best Appear by your after Conduct, If otherwise, I shall only think my trouble lost, and whatever may be the Consequence afterwards I shall be very indifferent.

Having occasion yesterday to be a few Miles from home on Business, I happened to fall in with a small but Sensible Company, after talking over a great many Things, the Conversation turned at last upon a Subject altogether foreign to me, namely anent several Prosecutions which have of late been commenced against different Persons in and about the neighbourhood of the Place you live in, particularly to the Northward, and was entirely confounded to hear, that you are the principal Instigator, and actor of such hellish Schemes, as commencing these Prosecutions to prove those persons to be Smugglers, or Importers of prohibited Goods, in order to which you with some others, your accomplices, have suborned a set of the most worthless Perjured, Infamous lowliv'd Rogues, that perhaps Scotland, nay, the whole world cannot produce such like perfidious wretches, Consummate Knaves, and the very dregs of mankind, yea, more Generosity is to be had from the most savage Tyger, that roams in the wild of Nubia, If this is the case (which god, you, and your accomplices only know) I think you must undoubtedly be the most unhappy of all men — I naturally enquired, what motive, one in your office and Rank could have in such wickedness, it was answered, your motives were thought to be partly Envy and Revenge, but mostly mercenary, and that for a very inconsiderable trifle to yourself (after paying your Banditti) you pay no Regard to the ruining Individuals, or whole Families The men who you have injured so much, now after coming to the perfect knowledge, that you are the main Spring of action, are, and Justly raised to a Degree of rage next to Madness, and are determined, that if you do not immediately stop procedure in these matters, that you will be treated as a Common Enemy, and were their case mine, I would look upon you worse than a Highwayman, and treat you as such first opportunity, which I understand you have reason to expect, and if that should happen (as god forbid) I am absolutely convinced, the world would Justify the Action, and pray, what fine Reflection must your Family and Friends have, when they think of the great honours, you have brought on yourself and them. But allowing you still go on in your ordinary Career, and meet with no disaster or Obstacle, and that you get your wicked designs accomplished, that you cause a few people leave their Country, that you get them ruined to all Intents, that you get their families made destitute, and that by their destruction you get a number of those detestable Knaves you employ, into low dirty Offices, to be always plotting, swearing and perjuring themselves, as tools to your inflexible barbarity and voracious Appetite, pray what mighty Conquest do you make? — Yes, you make a few men that might live peaceable in their Families, Miserable Vagabonds, and send those ignorant fellows, who are subservient to you, directly to the Devil, and yourself at their head. It might be thought that one of your sense could never have thought of degrading yourself so much, by being engaged in so horrid actions, and with such low pauntry Company, which must render you infamous to the last degree, and without a speedy amendment of your manners you must leave the world with a most abominable Character; and how hideous must your Reflections be, to think that you cannot survive long, I may say, looking into the grave and such a load of Iniquity on your back — pardon me for being so tedious, only let me add that if your years shall be lengthened yet sometime, It will be your wisdom to change your method to a better way of thinking, which if done must soon appear, otherwise blame yourself, if the Consequences are fatal. I am.

Sir

Your Crimes are now at a height. your Oppression and Influence in the exercise of your Office, are become so glaring that they call aloud for Vengeance,

You trust to your Friends, but there are some who pretend to be so who would be happy to see you sacrificed to the Manes of injured Innocence — Know then proud villain, that as your Life is now become odious in the sight of God and all good People, we are determined to put a period to it as soon as a proper Opportunity offers. We shall lye in wait for you, and take you off in an unguarded Hour, and send you to your infernal Adviser with all your Imperfections on your head. It will be in vain for you to make any enquiry about the intended Perpetrators of that glorious deed as we have sworn inviolable Secrecy. We hope soon to meet with you and clear Accounts. Nine.

Edinburgh 12<sup>th</sup> April 1775.

N. B. By God you may be saying your Prayers.

*His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice the Person or Persons concerned in writing or sending the said Letters, is hereby pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any of them, (except the Person or Persons who actually wrote the said Letters, or either of them) who shall discover his or her Accomplice or Accomplice therein, so that he, she, or they may be apprehended and convicted thereof.*

S U F F O L K.

*And, as a farther Encouragement, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs at Edinburgh do hereby promise a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS, to the Person making such Discovery, to be paid by the Receiver-General of His Majesty's Customs, upon the Conviction of one or more of the Offenders.*

R. E. Phillips, Secretary.

St. James's, June 6, 1775.

*Whereas it has been humbly represented to the King, That John Cox, Esq; one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, did lately receive, by the Penny Post, an anonymous Threatening Letter, in the Words and Figures following, viz.*

June y<sup>e</sup> 3 1775

Sir we are sorry to be so troublefom but last night Jones was Cast for Death at the old Bayley on the account of generall fitzroys Robery which was brought to Light by Mr. Nickalls who gave the inforematon of Richard Rider John hawkins Daniel hopkings and Edward Jones who is now under Sentence of Death on the Same occasion now Mr. Nickalls is intituled to the Reward of sixty guinnies upon that occasion now mr nickalls may Depend upon it for fact that he is not longer live er then the person that is under Sentence of death if so long for we are Determined upon it we do not valoue our lives if more Robbers does go to the gallows with Jones for we are Determined to putt an end to Nickalls is days. if he stays in this metrophelus for he only did it for the Sake of the mony  
So no more from me

please to shew mr  
Nickalls the letter

(Superscribed)

To Mr. John Cox Esq<sup>r</sup>  
in bambrige Street St. giles  
london

*His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice the Person or Persons concerned in Writing or Sending the said Letter, is hereby pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any one of them, (except the Person who actually wrote the same) who shall discover his or her Accomplice or Accomplices therein, so that he, she, or they, may be apprehended and convicted thereof.*

S U F F O L K.

East-India House, May 17, 1775.

*THE Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East-Indies, do hereby Notice,*

*That the Transfer Books of the said Company's Stock will be shut on Thursday the 15th Day of June next, at Two o'Clock, and opened again on Thursday the 13th of July following.*

*And that the Dividend Warrants on the said Stock, due the 5th Day of July, will be ready to be delivered on Wednesday the 9th of August next.*