

Altho' there is not the least Foundation for this Rumour, nor has any Ship arrived here from Smyrna for many Years past; yet I find, by several Gentlemen, who have received Letters from their Correspondents in the Country, that the Alarm is become general, and likely to be of the greatest Detriment to the Trade and Interest of this City, and very alarming to the Publick in General, if not speedily put a Stop to.

I therefore take this Liberty of informing your Grace of it by Express, not doubting, but you will take all proper Methods that this false and villainous Report be contradicted in the most publick and authentick Manner, as soon as possible, and the Publishers of it brought to their due Punishment.

The Collector of the Customs has, by the same Conveyance, wrote to the Commissioners, and certified to them, that there is not, nor has been, any Sickness on board any Ship lately arrived at this Port.

I am, &c.

Thomas Curtis, Mayor.

*To His Grace the
Duke of Newcastle.*

The following Address of the Governour and Council of Barbados, having been transmitted to his Grace the Duke of Bedford, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has by him been presented to his Majesty: Which Address his Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty,

The humble Address of the Governour and Council of your Majesty's Island of Barbados.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Governour and Council of your Majesty's Island of Barbados, humbly crave Leave to embrace this Opportunity of expressing the grateful Sense we have of the many Benefits we enjoy under your Majesty's most auspicious Reign; Benefits that could never be communicated to so distant a Colony, but by the consummate Wisdom, unwearied Vigilance, and amiable Goodness of the Supreme Lord thereof, and such as is not in the Power of the warmest Hearts of its Inhabitants sufficiently to acknowledge.

Amidst all other important Avocations, such was your Majesty's Care of, and Concern for, your Dominions in these Parts during the late War, that they cannot be said to have felt the Calamities incident thereto, and were scarce

under any Apprehensions of Danger from either of the powerful States then at Enmity with your Majesty, who was graciously pleased to supply us with a Naval Force superior to the apparent Efforts of both. By this your Majesty did at the same Time give the clearest Testimony of a constant Attention to the true Interests of your People in general, since those Interests are undoubtedly interwoven with, and do in a great Measure depend upon, the Preservation and Encouragement of that large Branch of Commerce which has its Source in these Islands.

As your Majesty's extensive Views and truly noble Passion for the publick Good, were very conspicuous in your seasonable and most zealous Endeavours to restore the Tranquility of Europe, and to settle the Balance thereof on a firm and lasting Foundation; so the same Wisdom and Conduct are equally to be admired in the speedy Accomplishment of that great and necessary Work; an Event no less glorious to the happy Instrument, than it will be advantageous to all around him; and which, while it proclaims the tenderest Affection of the best of Kings to his own Subjects, does also plainly evince a real Love to the whole Species.

After the many just Congratulations which your Majesty will have received from those who are nearer your Royal Person, we at this Distance could not omit to offer likewise our most humble Tribute on the Occasion; and though we are necessarily later in paying our Duty, we think we are at least as ardent in our Homage as any of our Fellow Subjects whatever. We shall certainly be alike Partakers of the Blessings of Peace in common with them, and the Sovereign Goodness has been dealt out to us with so liberal a Hand, that the Impressions made thereby on our Minds, can only be exceeded by the Desire we feel within us of acknowledging it.

Permit us then, great Sir, whilst we thus presume to approach the Throne, to add, That we most fervently wish your Majesty may long live to be a Benefactor to Mankind in general, and a peculiar Blessing to your own People; That the future Part of your Reign may be attended with every prosperous Circumstance, and free from every Incident tending to diminish the Felicity thereof; That all who have the Happiness to live under your Majesty's just and mild Administration, may be as sincerely grateful for, as they cannot but be truly sensible of it; and that the British Sceptre may continue in your illustrious Family to latest Posterity. In these Sentiments and Hopes, we subscribe, with the most awful Deference,

Your Majesty's most loyal, most dutiful, and most faithful Subjects
and Servants.

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