

by solemn oath, to prevent the sheriffs levying on their goods and chattles; However I shall be better informed of the genuine causes of the restless disposition that prevails among the inhabitants of several other counties in the province, tho' they have not yet shewed themselves openly, when I go up into the back country among them, which I purpose to do next week for the hot months.

If his Majesty in his wisdom shall grant the address of this colony for a currency, I persuade myself the public taxes would be collected without any obstruction.

[FROM MS. RECORDS IN OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.]

COUNCIL JOURNALS.

At a Council held at Brunswick 20th June 1768

Present.

His Excellency the Governor

The Honble	{	James Hasell	William Dry	} Esquires
		John Rutherford	Benjamin Heron	
		Lewis DeRosset	Samuel Strudwick	

His Excellency was pleased to lay before the Board a petition and sundry other papers relative to the late Disturbances in Orange County in Answer to which it is the unanimous opinion of the Board that his Excellency send the following Letter Viz^t

GENTLEMEN

I have received by the hands of Messrs Hunter and Howell a Petition and other papers subscribed by several of the Inhabitants lying on the South side of Haw River in the County of Orange under the borrowed Title of Regulators assuming to themselves Powers and Authorities unknown to the Constitution of calling Publick Officers to a settlement, together with a narrative of their conduct and detail of the grievances and complaints against the Clerk of the Court, Register and other Publick Officers, whose exactions and oppressions it's pretended has been the cause of the late Insurrections which have disturbed the peace of that part of the Country: These papers I have agreeable to your desire communicated to the Members of His Majestys Council, who having taken the same into their deliberate consideration, unanimously concur with me in Opinion

that the Grievances complained of by no means Warrant the extraordinary steps you have taken in assembling yourselves together in Arms, to the Obstruction of the Course of Justice, to the insult of Publick Officers of the Government in the Execution of their Offices and to the injury of private property: Measures as they manifestly tend to the subversion of the Constitution of this Government would inevitably if carried but a little further have been denominated and must have been treated as high treason, and consequently have involved the Abettors most of whom I am satisfied were actuated by honest Motives though incautiously drawn in to concur in Acts that might have terminated in the ruin and destruction of their Families while by illegal means they were intent on exempting themselves from Evils within the Remedy of the Laws of this Country; These calamities I trust are now removed by the timely proclamation I sent up to you by my Secretary and your own prudent determination to petition me in Council for the redress of the Grievances complained of — The discreet and steady behaviour of Col^o Fanning and the Officers and Men under his Command meet not only with the entire Approbation of myself and His Majestys Council, but will ever be acknowledged with gratitude by every unprejudiced well wisher of this Province. I take this opportunity to acquaint all those whose understandings have been run away with and whose passions have been led in Captivity by some evil designing men who actuated by cowardice and a sense of that Publick Justice which is due to their Crimes have obscured themselves from Publick view that in consideration of a determination to abide by my decision in Council it is my direction by the unanimous Advice of that Board that you do from hence forward desist from any further Meetings either by Verbal appointment or advertisement, That all Titles of Regulators or Associators cease among you, That the Sheriffs and other Officers of the Government are permitted without molestation to execute the duties of their respective Offices and that all Breaches of the peace against His Majestys Government may be examined and determined in a due course of Law. It is by your strict and punctual adherence to these directions that any further clemency on my part may be looked for. This was the extent of what I authorized Mr Edwards to declare on my behalf. And now that I have signified to you the sense of His Majestys Council entertains of the nature of your proceedings and the Requisitions I point out by their advice for your future conduct, I am to assure you willing as I am to listen to the

voice of distress and the just complaints of His Majestys Subjects and the hardships they may groan under, that I shall give His Majestys Attorney General Orders to prosecute every Officer who has been guilty of Extortion or illegal Practices in his Office upon any Application or information lodged with him by the Parties injured or any others who shall be authorized to prosecute on their behalf as also sit upon a proclamation on my arrival at Hillsborough forbidding all such dishonorable and illegal proceedings. You may further depend upon it I shall at all times endeavour to redress every other Grievance in my power that His Majestys Loyal Subjects may labor under.

As you want to be satisfied what is the amount of the Tax for the Publick Service for 1767 I am to inform you it is seven shillings a Taxable besides the County and Parish Taxes, the particulars of which I will give to Mr Hunter. I have only to add I shall be up at Hillsborough the beginning of next Month in the mean time I rest in full confidence I shall be again made happy by seeing industry prevailing over Faction, and Peace and Harmony triumphing over jealousy and murmuring in a Soil and climate the most fertile in the World and among a people who by a well directed industry may draw down blessings and prosperity to their Families, and greatly contribute to the Honour of His Majestys Government and the Happiness of my Administration.

At the Council Chamber Brunswick the 21st June 1768.

His Excellency acquainted this Board that he thought Col: Edmund Fanning of the Orange Regiment of Militia, together with the Officers and Men which were present under his command during the late disturbances at Hillsborough merited some publick testimony for their prudent and spirited behavior upon that occasion which being the unanimous opinion of His Majestys Council then present Col. Fanning was desired to appear and received the thanks of His Excellency and this Board accordingly and was requested to deliver the same to the officers and men who acted under his command.

[FROM MS. RECORDS IN OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.]

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas Information hath been made to me by Thomas Hayward Esq. Commander of His Majesty's Sloop the *Martin* that daily desertions are made by the Sailors of the said Sloop to the great Prejudice of His Majestys Service, & that if an immediate stop be not put to such evils, He will be under the disagreeable necessity of impressing other Seamen from Merchants ships, which will consequently impede the Trade, & Commercial Interest of this Province, I have therefore thought proper for the Benefit of His Majesty's Service and the advancement of Commerce, to issue this my Proclamation hereby strictly directing & requiring His Majestys Justices of the Peace, and other the Kings Officers, to take up & detain all such Seamen as they shall suspect to have deserted from any of His Majestys Ships of War, until notice can be given to Captain Hayward Commander of the said Sloop the *Martin* laying off Brunswick, And I do hereby give Notice to all Tavern Keepers, and others who shall be detected in harbouring or concealing any Sailors Deserters from His Majestys Ships of War that they will subject themselves to the utmost rigour of the Law.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal &c. at Brunswick 24th June 1768. W^m. TRYON.

[B. P. R. O. AMERICA AND WEST INDIES. VOL. 215.]

NORTH CAROLINA.

George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith, &c.

A Proclamation.

Whereas Complaints have been made to us, that exorbitant Fees have been demanded and taken in the several Public Offices in Our Colonies; to the great Dishonour of our service and the prejudice of our Public Interests:

We have thought proper hereby strictly to enjoin and require all Public Offices within our said Province, forthwith to cause fair Tables of their Fees, legally established, to be affixed up in their Respective Offices.

And We do further strictly enjoin and require all public Officers, in their respective stations throughout this Province, not to demand or receive other Fees, for public business transacted in their Offices, than what was established by proper authority, upon pain of being removed from their said Offices, and prosecuted with the utmost severity of the Law.

Witness our Trusty and Well beloved William Tryon, Esq: Our Captain General, Governor & Commander in Chief, in & over Our said Province, at Brunswick, the twenty first day of July, in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred & sixty eight, & in the eighth year of our reign.

W^m. TRYON.

God save the King.

By His Excy's Commands

BENJ: HERON, Secretary.

[B. P. R. O. AM. & W. I. N. C. No. 216.]

Observations on the Thermometer Hillsborough 1768. North Carolina. July.

THE MONTHS	HOUR 6	HOUR 9	HOUR 12	HOUR 3	HOUR 6	HOUR 9	HOUR 12
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8	60	62	75½	77	77	73	
9	67	70	80	82	79	74	
10	72	77	82	83	73	71	73
11	75½	78	83	85	80	76	
12	74	77	79	83	81	78	
13	72	77½	82	85	79	75	
14	71	75	77½	80	78	73	
15	71	75	76	77	70	64	
16	61	66	73	75	73	71	
17	62	67	74	76	72	70	
18	63	69	78	80	76	73	
19	63	71	78	82	79	75	
20	64	72½	80	82	81	76	
21	72	75	82	84	80	78	
22	73½	78	84	85½	84	81	
23	75	79	83	84	79	77	
24	73	78	82	85	81	77	
25	76	78	83	85	81	75	
26	65	67	70½	72	69	66	
27	61	69	72	79	72	72	
28	63	71	75½	78	74	73	
29	64	70	77	80	78	76	
30	67	74	82	85	84	81	
31	74½	76	76	77	78	77	

[B. P. R. O. AM. & W. I. N. C. No. 216.]

Deposition of Tyree Harris late Sheriff of Orange County

NORTH CAROLINA } No. 15.
Orange County }

This day came Tyree Harris before me James Thackston one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County of Orange and being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, Deposeth and Sayeth that on Monday y^e first day of August in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and sixty eight he set out to meet a Company of People called Regulators, at George Adam Sally's on Rocky river the next day, and accordingly met on the same day, a large number of men assembled a large part whereof were armed, and that on his arrival he delivered a Letter from His Excellency the Governor, to James Hunter, which he the said Hunter, publicly read and after reading thereof, he the said Hunter, read another Letter, which he said the Governor had before sent them, and then a Proclamation which this Deponent, carried in the first mentioned Letter, after which this Deponent mixed with the Company and it appeared to be the general resolution of the whole Assembly to pay no Taxes And this Deponent sayeth, that he heard several Persons to him unknown swear that they would kill any man who should dare to take anything from any of them till they came to a Settlement with many other menacing expressions against Officers in general; and this Deponent sayeth he heard W^m. Butler who appeared to be a Leader amongst them declare himself to this purpose, "We are determin'd not to pay the Tax for the next three years, for the Edifice or Governor's House We want no such House, nor will we pay for it." And on a further conversation which this Deponent had with William Butler, James Hunter and several others relative to his Proceeding, on his Collection of the Taxes agreeable to Law he does verily believe that had he distrained he should have endangered his Life. And furthermore this Deponent saith not —

TYREE HARRIS.

Sworn to before me at Hillsborough the 3rd day of August 1768.

JAMES THACKSTON.

NORTH CAROLINA } No. 16.
Orange County }

This Day came Ransom Sutherland before me James Thackston one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County who being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God Deposeth & saith That on Monday the first day of August 1768 he set out from Hillsborough in Company with M^r Tyree Harris the late Sheriff of the said County of Orange to a meeting of those people who stile themselves Regulators which he had heard was to be at the plantation of George Adam Sally's in the said County on the next day and that accordingly on Tuesday about 12 o'clock he this Deponent with the said Harris got to the said Sally's where on their arrival they found as near as this Deponent could tell about two hundred men assembled many of whom were armed, That soon after he saw the said Harris deliver a letter which he said he received from His Excellency the Governor to one of the Company viz. James Hunter, the said Hunter immediately read the same publickly in which it was recommended to them to pay their Levies due for the year 1767 to the said Harris and that they should not molest or disturb him or his deputies in the legal execution of their Office in collecting the same, after Hunter had finished reading the said letter the People seemed unanimously to deny paying their Taxes. This Deponent further sayeth that he heard the people say to the said Harris that if he should distrain on them for their Levies that they would abuse him and kill any Person that should distrain for their levies, further this Deponent sayeth that he does sincerely believe that those people would have murdered the said Harris or any other Officer that should have distrained for the Publick Taxes further this Deponent sayeth not —

RANSOM SUTHERLAND.

(Signed) JAMES THACKSTON.

The 3rd day of August 1768.

[B. P. R. O. AMERICA & W. INDIES. VOL. 215.]

Letter from Earl Hillsborough to Governor Tryon
WHITEHALL 13th August 1768.

SIR,

The Disturbances in the Counties of Orange and Anson appear, from the Circumstances related in your Letter, to have been of a

very dangerous Nature, and as the King gives full Credit to your Spirit and Activity in the Suppression of them so His Majesty has an entire Confidence in your Prudence that every necessary precaution will be taken to prevent the like riotous Proceedings for the future. At the same time it will be very satisfactory to His Majesty to be fully informed of the Causes of those Disturbances, to the End that if there appears to be any real Ground of Complaint, Measures may be taken to apply the proper remedy.

I have already, in my Letter N^o. 11, been so full and explicit upon the Application made by the Council & Assembly of North Carolina for a Paper Currency, that I have nothing to add upon that Subject.

The Petition of the Members of the Council to His Majesty, praying an Allowance out of the Quit Rents in Consideration of the various Duties they are obliged to perform, has been communicated to the Board of Trade, and a favorable Report thereupon, from that Board, now lies before the Lords of the Committee of Council, but I do not expect that their Lordships will come to any Determination upon it, until they know the Sentiments of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

I am &c^a
HILLSBOROUGH.

[FROM MS. RECORDS IN OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.]

COUNCIL JOURNALS.

At a Council held at Hillsborough 13th August 1768.

Present

His Excellency the Governor
The Honble { Alexander M^cCulloch } Esquires
 { Robert Palmer }
 { Samuel Strudwick }

His Excellency was pleased to inform this Board, that at His arrival at Hillsboro he had agreeable to his promise issued a proclamation strictly forbidding all publick officers from taking more than the fees established by Law, and that having been five weeks in this Town without receiving any answer to his letter dated from the Council Chamber at Brunswick the 21st June addressed to the

Inhabitants on the South side of Haw River, and having certain information that these people continue their unlawful assemblies and went on enrolling men, and confederating under a solemn engagement to obstruct the Laws, He had thought proper to direct Mr Harris the late Sheriff of Orange County to go to them at one of their meetings and demand the Publick Taxes, sending by him the following Letter to dispose them more cheerfully to submit to the payment of their levies.

GENTLEMEN,

In strict conformity to the promises I made you in my letter dated from the Council Chamber at Brunswick I issued a proclamation on my arrival at Hillsborough a copy of which I herewith transmit to you. I also gave Mr Attorney General, Orders to prosecute at Law all Publick Officers in your County for abuses in their Offices, on a application made to him by or in behalf of the parties injured.

It is therefore by my advice and consent that Mr Tyree Harris waits on you to proceed in the collection of the Publick County and Parochial Taxes of Orange County for the year 1767.

I have the fullest confidence that you will agreeable to the direction of my above mentioned Letter to you and in Justice to the principles of your engagement to abide by my decision in Council make it a matter of Honour and Conscience among yourselves that Mr Harris and his deputies shall not meet with any interruption in so essential and immediately necessary a discharge of his duty in obedience to the Laws of this Country.

W^m. TRYON.

HILLSBOROUGH 1st August 1768.

That the Sheriff at his return acquainted His Excellency that the Insurgents to a man refused to pay their taxes and threatened the life of any person who should attempt to distrain for them; these menaces had such an effect on the Sheriff and his deputy that they durst not proceed to a distress, That on the 5th of August His Excellency received a Letter from the persons stiling themselves Regulators by the hands of Messrs Hunter and Lowe as follows

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In your Excellency's gracious Answer to our Petition &c by Messrs Hunter & Howell you were pleased to inform us that you

had laid our papers before the Hon^{ble} the Members of His Majesty's Council for which we return you our sincere & hearty thanks tho' had you conformable to your wonted Goodness graciously condescended to have laid them before the whole of that Board our thanks on this Occasion had been rather more unfeigned; your gracious promise of setting upon your arrivall at Hillsborough a Proclamation forbidding all Officers the taking or even demanding illegal and exorbitant Fees on pain of your highest displeasure gave us some encouragement and hopes of redress especially on information you had really performed your promise but when we were assured the register had in open violence thereof taken nine shillings and four pence expressly contrary to Law for recording of deeds our hopes Vanished fearing your orders to the Attorney General may be as little regarded and that a poor man will get no real redress for, your Excellency may easily perceive how little regard these men pay to your injunctions how little dread your displeasure Neither does these Considerations alone deter us from a measure whereby to obtain Justice pointed out to us by your Excellency as the most salutary But our Gentlemen have got a trick of late of suing such as demand only their just debts and sue for them to some distant District when they are in the way of their business This was the case of poor Touchstone who having repeatedly dunn'd Colonel Fanning and his Agent to no purpose for a sum due to him and despairing to obtain it commenced an action against the Agent for which crime, the Colonel served him with a general Court Writ to appear at Halifax Superior Court and altho' the Colonel paid what costs accrued thereon yet poor Touchstone who lives in Anson by attendance, loss of time and expences to his very great damage and this we humbly apprehend must be the case with everyone who should enter into Law Contest with our powerful antagonists Pardon us therefore great Sir when we tell you in the anguish of our Souls that we cannot, dare not go to law as we are sure that step whenever taken will terminate inevitably in the ruin of ourselves & Families unless other means are established wherewith to ward off and invalidate these dreadfully dangerous consequences seeing therefore that these sons of Zeruiah are like to prove too hard for your Excellency as well as for us and seeing you are disregarded in everything you are graciously pleased to speak or act in our favour We have come to a resolution to Petition the Lower House as the other branch of the Legislature in order to strengthen your Excellency's hands that by the

concurrence and timely aid of that respectable Body you may be enabled to curb the insolence and avarice of these overgrown Members of the Commonwealth and thereby haply for all Parties establish Peace, Harmony and Concord throughout the Country and as our dernier resort should this method fail us we have nothing left but to pass by the Injustice, stagger along under our heavy burdens & secretly and silently lament the Peculiarity of our fate which has made us the unhappy objects of oppression without affording us the most distant prospect or latent means of redress — Your Excellency is pleased to observe that you Hope again to be made happy on seeing a spirit of industry prevailing among us over faction and discontent. Great Sir, all that know us can bear witness for us that while we held anything we could call our own few People on earth were more industrious than we but alas since the iron hand of tyranny has displayed its baneful influences over us with impunity how has dejection, indifference and melancholy & Chagrin diffusively spread themselves far and wide among us and unless some propitious being in form either of your Excellency our Assembly or both graciously condescend to use your united efforts to extricate us, out of our present misery and secure us in our rights and properties the sullenness and gloom which we are already seized will fix deep in our intellects and a general disregard to everything here below ensue as a consequence thereof nor shall we strive after any more than barely to keep these our tottering frames from falling to pieces until death in compassion to our sufferings and in commiseration of our wrongs shall kindly appear in the shape of a Halter, Bullet, Sword or perhaps in his natural shape and remove us from this spot of dirt about which and its products there is so much contention and animosity till when and at all times hereafter may your Excellency's Portion be as the dew of Heaven and the fat things of the earth, ardently wish and sincerely pray your Excellency's Devoted Humble Servants

Signed

FRANCIS DORSET

W^m. PAINE

PETER CRAVEN

PETER JULIAN

JACOB FUDGE

RICHARD CHEEK, a Dutchman

CHARLES SAXON

NINIAN HAMILTON.

Note.—The above letter was delivered to the Governor the 5th of August 1768 by Messrs Lowe and Hunter at Hillsborough, which letter was read in Council, this letter he promised to answer the 17th as he shortly expected the arrival of some Members of His Majesty's Council whom he chose to consult on the subject—That in the night of the 11th he had intelligence that a number of Insurgents said to be upwards of one thousand, were Assembled in Arms within twenty miles of Hillsborough, and were suspected to have formed some evil designs against the Town and its Inhabitants, for the prevention of which he had ordered in the nearest companies of Militia: But upon subsequent information that the Insurgents had collected themselves upon a false alarm and were actually dispersed, His Excellency had thought proper to dismiss the militia after having administered the following oath to upwards of four hundred Officers and men which they took with great expressions of Loyalty.

I, A B, Do solemnly promise and swear that I will bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Third. So help me God.

I, A B, Do sincerely and faithfully promise and swear that I will with heart and hand, life and goods, maintain and defend His Majesty's Government and the Laws and Constitution of the Province of North Carolina against all persons whatsoever who shall attempt to alter Obstruct or prevent the due administration of the Laws and the Public Peace and Tranquility of the said province. So help me God.

His Excellency therefore desires the opinion of the Council what measures they would recommend to be pursued [in] the present exigency.

The Board having taken the several matters before mentioned into their serious consideration are unanimously of opinion, That His Excellency should write the following Letter to the persons assuming the Title of Regulators, and that in case of their noncompliance with the requisition contained therein he should take the most effectual measures to preserve the public tranquility, and support the due Administration of the Laws by drawing out the Militia and employing them as may be most expedient for these salutary purposes,

GENTLEMEN,

I had every reasonable hope that my Letter to you from the Council Chamber of the 21st of June would have given you not

only the most Cordial satisfaction, but have prompted you with the most ardent zeal to have immediately subscribed to every direction contained therein, conformable to the declared Resolution in your Address to me:

It is with a sincere Regret I at this time reflect on the disobedient and ungrateful return you have made me both by your disregard to every part of my directions in the above mentioned letter and your refusal to pay your Publick levies to Mr Harris late Sheriff who demanded them of you on the second of this Month at a general meeting in virtue of his Legal powers and in compliance with the letter I sent you by him urging the immediate payment thereof.

The candour with which I treated the rash and precipitate steps of your past conduct and the just means and effectual measures I pointed out for removing the causes of your complaints would have given ample satisfaction to every man who petitioned me with an intention to be satisfied with Justice.

By your letter delivered to me the 5th Instant by the hands of Mess^{rs} Lowe and Hunter, I have the mortification to find every lenient measure of mine has been prevented, and the friendly aid I offered to correct the abuses in public Offices (which it was my duty to tender) considered by you as insufficient.

The force of the proclamation was to caution public officers against and to prevent as much as possible extortion: It is the province of the Courts of Law to Judge and punish the Extortioneer.

The dissatisfaction also you express that your address and papers were not laid before the whole Council is equally groundless with your declarations of the insufficiency of the proclamation.

By His Majestys Commission and instruction, three Councillors make a Board; and with five members business may be transacted of the highest Dignity: Whereas six gentlemen of the Council were present when your address and papers were laid before that Board.

The Resolution you have taken to petition the Legislative Body is extremely agreeable to me. My services on that occasion shall not be wanting to redress any real grievances.

It is necessary I should now inform you in humanity to your misguided passions, and in Justice to the Integrity of my intentions, that you are pursuing measures highly criminal and illegal; and it is a circumstance of real affliction to me when I consider you as acting upon principles no less void of Faith and Honour than inconsistent with every Moral and Religious duty.

You have given occasion to every man of property and probity by the open and unreserved menaces you have thrown out against the lives and properties of many of the Inhabitants of this County to look upon your designs as bent rather upon destroying the peace of this Government, and the security of its Inhabitants, than a wish or intention to wait for any legal process against those you imagine have abused their publick Trust.

Upon these alarming prospects I esteem it my duty to provide for the safety of Government and to take care that the Publick receives no danger.

To prevent therefore as much as possible the heavy expence that must accrue to the Province by providing against the insults that are intended to be offered to His Majestys Superior Court of Justice, I am peremptory to require on your part, that at least twelve of your principals and those of the first property, wait upon me at Salisbury on Thursday the 25th of this month, and there execute in my presence a Bond of one thousand pounds as a security that no rescue shall be made of William Butler and Harmond Husbands at the Superior Court at Hillsborough they being under recognizances then to appear and take their tryal.

Signed

W^m. TRYON.

[B. P. R. O. AM. & W. I. N. C. No. 216.]

Address from the Inhabitants in Anson County.

To HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR TRYON.

EXCELLENT SIR,

We make no doubt but that you will soon hear the disagreeable news of the disorders of the unfortunate County of Anson We therefore take this opportunity to inform you the cause and manner of it, in which we blame ourselves, for not having first addressed your Excellency on the Occasion of our complaints, who could, and no doubt would have removed our Grievances and have prevented the rumour of Faction and Disorder. But being long under the growing weight of oppression became precipitate, and rash, and thought to change the state of the County in a different manner to have suppressed the Offenders, and made them wary of their employment— For which purpose formed ourselves into which the opposite Party

called a mob of about five hundred men, resolving should no happier event interfere to our succor to have defended our cause in the disagreeable manner of a force, and to have persisted unto blood, We looking on it at that time much out of our Powers to have kindness from your Excellency as our leading men were best acquainted, whose assertions we feared would have greatest weight with your Excellency. But whenever considered that neither Prince nor Governor who has the good of his People at heart would see them oppressed to gratify the errors and ambition of any particular Persons, who are Anthony Hutchins, Colonel Samuel Spencer, Charles Medlock and their Assistants the Justices and Sheriffs &c. Persons chiefly recommended to your Excellency by Hutchins and Spencer to answer their partial views and Purposes, under whose influence they act the Magistrate part through fear as fearing to offend the Persons who conferred the Honors on them, and part ignorance as not knowing what to do, they being a number of very poor ignorant and almost illiterate men Under such their inability they proceed to the Administration, of what they call public Justice which Property and character are extremely doubtful & precarious, as innocent Persons are committed to Gaol by the Gaoler himself being a magistrate and then put to considerable expence, and then discharged without form of Tryal to conceal their Injustice. Amongst other things they tax the People in an unusual manner which are as follows.

First Persons who commit capital offences are committed to the County Gaol and there retained five or six months, a County Tax is laid to defray the expence when it is notoriously known it is a Province Expence, But Medlock the late Sheriff stop't not there, but proceeded by M^r Spencer the Clerk and Member for the County to have the same claim allowed by the Assembly, and were only prevented as we are informed by its being proved to the Committee of Claims that the Prisoners had made satisfaction themselves— These things were not unknown to M^r Spencer when he laid Medlock's claim before the Assembly. In the next place where the Justices are in possession of Public Ferries they establish them free at times pretending for the free passage of Courtiers a considerable Tax is laid for that Purpose. In the next place they tax considerable sums of money for particular Persons, who not having a right thereto, the Magistrates after receive back part, if not all to their own use. All these things can be made to appear, and we conceive that no People have a right to be taxed, but by the consent of themselves or their Delegates. But

here the Magistrates assume it, then the Sheriffs who receive the Tax particularly Medlock and his Associates have made a constant practice to exact 2.8. for distress money, when no distress is made nor necessary to be made, and also have taxed different sums from the People according to their non acquaintance with the right Tax so that several different sums were received from the People in the same year surmounting the right Tax. As to the Clerk his extortions are burthensome to all that fall in his power as he takes double and some times treble his due — And tho' it is true he purchased his Office from Colonel Frohock and gave to the amount of one hundred and fifty pounds for it yet it's unreasonable we should bear the expence by way of extortion. Please Sir, to enquire of M^r Edwards, touching the connection of Hutchins Spencer and Medlock, and their unreasonable method of proceeding by means of their influence over the ignorant Magistrates as he has doubtless made some observation on their behaviour. This and much more are the causes of the present disturbances which we humbly pray your Excellency will please to reconcile by discharging the most of the Magistrates from their seats, & appointing better men, more capable and willing to discharge that Office, and also the Clerk if it seems right to you. Sir, if you in your wisdom think meet so to do we beg leave as we have no Person to represent us to inform your Excellency of the Magistrates which are unqualified for that Office and ought to be discharged, and also to recommend by the voice of the County such Persons as will judiciously discharge their several Offices & immediately upon such alterations the minds of the People will be at ease, and each one to his former obedience, and ready to discharge according to their abilities every expence necessary for the support of Government, and we as Petitioners in Duty bound shall ever pray —

Soloⁿ CroftsTho^s UsseryJn^o Skinner

And: Fortinberry

Lewis Lord

Joseph Howel

Jason Meadow

Ja^s Almond

Job Cilleadon

James Lowry

James Round

Tho^s MasenW^m BettenW^m Rogers

Tho: Mims

Cha^s Henson

Malachi Watts

Cha^s PoothAb^m BuskinNath^l Wood

William Bosil

Harklis Conkwrite

W^m Fielding

Patt: Boggen

Tho^s Fanning

John Jenkins

Tho^s Fanning jun^r

Patrick Saunders

Jn^o Caterhan

James Short

Ja^s MacMeot

Daniel Short

James Colbon

Ch: Walkinford

Tho^s FreeYouⁿ HelmsW^m ToursJn^o Fretinberry

Delany Herring

Jn^o Touchberry

Jacob Collins

Joshua Collins

Tho. Swearinger

Isaac Armstrong

Jn^o Swor sen^rJ. Swor jun^r

S. Swearinger

Reben Woodard

Van Swearinger

Luke Robinson

Ralph Mason

Jn^o MasonTho^s Mason

Mark Rushen

W^m Hickman

John Baile

John Hornback

Tho. Harper

Sam^l HarperJa^s Adams

Amos Pilgrim

W^m AdamsTho^s Adams

Jas. Barindine

W^m Barindine jun^rW^m Barindine s^rSam^l BrutonSam^l WilliamsSolⁿ Williams

Benj: Barrit

W^m BurnsJⁿ Poston

Hen: Fostinberry

W^m Rogers

Geo. Marchbanks

W^m BugenW^m Short

John Henson

Robert Thorn

Robert Ashley

Peter Brisley

Samps Thomas

James Higgins

W^m Higgins

Frank Jordon

Jn^o HigginsTho^s JordonJn^o Carpenter

Sam Touchberry

John Web

Tho^s MimsAbra^m HarperTho^s Harper jun^r

Joseph Burham

John Brus

Joseph English

Dennis Nolsen sen^rJn^o Bennett

Anth: Matthews

His Excellency's Answer to the Anson Petition

GENTLEMEN,

The various matters of Complaint in your Petition to me delivered by M^r Luke Robinson are of so extraordinary and unusual a nature, that they require the consultation of His Majesty's Council which are far distant from me, at present. Such part of your asserted Grievances as regard the Extortion of Public Officers will be remedied by the Parties who have been injured applying to the Attorney General who shall receive directions from me to prosecute those who have abused their Public Trusts — As to the Insults you offered to the Magistrates in the execution of their Offices at the inferior Court of your County, will be a subject of Enquiry at His Majesty's Superior Court of Salisbury District — The acknowledgment however you make of the guilt of so rash and illegal a Proceeding will if accompanied with a future good Behaviour and a dutiful submission

to the Laws of your County, entitle you to some lenity from the Court as well as from Me. The enclosed Proclamation will be sufficient to satisfy you of the just abhorrence His Majesty entertains of the dishonorable Practices complained of in Public Offices.

WILLIAM TRYON.

Hillsborough 16th August 1768.

NOTE.—No. 24 is the Printed Proclamation herewith transmitted. [See *ante* page 751].—EDITOR.

The Insurgents Letter to the Governor.

August 19th 1768.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We received your letter by the hands of M^r Lee at the only time that ever our Officers showed any real intention of informing us to what uses our money is applied and at a time when we had hopes and were persuaded matters were likely to be settled to the peace and satisfaction of the Public. But finding by it that your Excellency was displeas'd and charges us with breach of Honor and that we have given occasion for to be looked on as rather bent on destroying the peace of this Government than to wait for Justice.

At which we are truly affected with sorrow and concern at the thoughts of any differences arising between your Excellency and us, and that as through false reports and alarms the commonalty under Oppression have been incensed and occasion given we determine to use our utmost endeavors to guard against such Offences for the future.

But amidst our sorrow we are rejoiced to find your Excellency to be agreeable to our resolutions, to petition the Legislative Body which is generally agreed on.

As to the demand for security, not to rescue the prisoners, we beg that it may be considered that the alarms of raising men and Indians to cut off the Inhabitants of this County as Rebels, when they know in their hearts and Consciences they were guilty of no other Crime, but endeavoring to obtain justice, and detect fraudulent practices in the officers which has been so common in this Province that it is mentioned in many Public Acts of Assembly made to remedy the same which constantly prove unsuccessful, and we conceive ever will be so until the Public is encouraged to assist, and help by complaining and producing matters of fact, against the particulars.

Now these alarms were thought by the most considerate men to be without ground who interposed, pacified and moderated the People, and these it is likely may be looked on as the Principals or leading men. And these will ever use the same care, and will no doubt be always able to govern the multitude by reason & yet would be unwilling to enter into bonds, for the noise of such a step would be rather more likely to hinder their influence.

Moreover there never was any intent to rescue Prisoners but to beg and pray of the Governor to dissolve the House of Assembly and so far as we know the sentiments of the people in general, this one step alone, would at once stop every mouth and every complaint, but what would go through and by way of such Representatives as would then be chosen.

As the Governor may observe by the Detail of our Proceedings, that it was the Representatives refusing us a Conference, and threatening us for requesting one, and frightening and deterring us from petitioning for redress, that first gave occasion for disorder—Therefore as the stopping the free Passage of this Channel for Relief, has occasioned the Obstruction of good order, so the opening of which passage, will as assuredly restore it again.

JAMES HUNTER
THO^o WELBORN
PETER JULIAN

Signed in behalf & by Order of the Regulators.

Insurgents Letter to the Governor delivered by James Hunter when the Troops were on the march from Salisbury to Hillsborough.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The general rumour prevails that a large Drove of Cattle are shortly to pass through our Settlement by your Excellency's Direction. Pardon us Sir when we signify a measure so very prejudicial to our interests gives us some Pain as a number of Cattle have been already lost through distempers spread among us by Drovers from the South and as the common method used in such cases have been to stop such Drovers we hope we shall not be drove to the necessity of using such roughness in any affair wherein your Excellency is concerned & therefore rely on your Excellency's giving positive Orders to stop said Drovers.

As various rumours are daily spread that your Excellency designs to try, hang & condemn all those who bear the title of regulators

and all who abet and adhere to them as rebels and Traitors, and that you are enlisting forces into the nature of standing regiments in order to carry your designs into execution, let us premise that we declare we bear true and faithful allegiance, and what is more unfeigned love to our dread Sovereign Lord and royal Master King Geo 3rd now on the British throne, and will when occasion requires fight for and defend him to the last drop of blood, and that we highly venerate the British Constitution and would not change it for any form of Government existing. And lastly that we bear no ill-will to any but our cruel Oppressors from which number we exclude your Excellency. But will nothing propitiate but our blood, we are determined at all events to fall like men, and sell our lives at the very dearest rate.

We humbly therefore hope you will be pleased to inform us whether these rumors are true that we may know what to depend upon, always believing such designs never existed in your Excellency's intentions, seeing they are diametrically opposite to your known candor, justice, goodness and lenity from Sir,

Your Excellency's

Very devoted humble servants

PETER JULIAN
JAMES EVANS
ABRAHAM TEAGUE
WILLIAM MOFFITT

Signed in Behalf and by Order of the Regulators.
We beseech you Sir not to drive us to despair.

Address from the Insurgents when assembled at Hillsborough

To HIS EXCELLENCY

The humble Address of the Inhabitants of several Counties called Regulators.

To HIS EXCELLENCY W^m TRYON ESQ^o GOVERNOR & COMMANDER IN CHIEF OVER THE PROVINCE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Whereas thro' the exactions & extortions of several Officers of Orange, we have involved ourselves in many difficulties and by means of reports, falsely spread the contention has arose to a great extremity & being desirous to submit ourselves to the clemency of your Excellency, and to lay aside all method of redress of our grievances, but by a due course of Law and beg that your Excel-

lency will forgive all our past offences by your gracious Proclamation, that peace and tranquility may be restored again, to all the Inhabitants of this Province, and confiding in your assistance and favour to execute the Laws against said exactions and extortions and conclude

Your dutiful Petitioners,

Signed in behalf of the said Counties

W ^m Moffitt	Peter Julian	Lewis Lowry
Chris ^r Nation	Sam ^l Low	John Marchill
W ^m Butler	Harmon Cox	Joshua Teague
J ^a Stringer	John Pyle	Tho ^o Swearinger
W ^m Strongfellow	W ^m Paine	Nath ^l Ashley
Ja ^s Billingley	Cha ^o Saxon	W ^m Barton
Solo ^o Gross	Ja ^s Younger	Mincher Litten
	Samuel Ray	

Letter from the Presbyterian Ministers to Governor Tryon

To HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM TRYON ESQ^o CAPTAIN GENERAL & COMMANDER IN CHIEF IN AND OVER THE PROVINCE OF NORTH CAROLINA

SIR,

We the Subscribers His Majesty's ever dutiful and loyal Subjects Presbyterian Ministers in this Province, beg leave to approach your Excellency with cordial professions of unshaken duty and loyalty to His Majesty's sacred Person and Government and to testify our duty and ready submission to the Laws of this Province and to your Excellency's Administration. With these sentiments glowing in our breasts, we cannot but express our abhorrence of the present turbulent and disorderly spirit that shows itself in some parts of this Province, and we beg leave to assure your Excellency that we will exert our utmost abilities, to prevent the infection spreading among the People of our charge, and among the whole Presbyterian Body in this Province as far as our influence will extend.

We humbly hope your Excellency has found but a very small proportion of the People of our Denomination, among the present Insurgents, and we assure you Sir, if any such there are, they have departed from the invariable Principles of their Profession, which some bred in this Wilderness, for want of proper Instruction, may be supposed ignorant of.

Fully sensible of the happiness of our situation in point of Religious Liberty, we shall not fail at all times to inculcate and proclaim the glorious and catholic doctrines of Faith, Piety, Virtue and Loyalty so as best to promote the glory of our Divine Master, the best Interests of mankind, the Honor of His Majesty's Government, and the ease and comfort of your Excellency's Administration.

We congratulate our Country Sir, that while your Excellency steadily refuses to grant anything on compulsion to the demands of unreasonable men, you have at the same time made the cause of the poor so much your own, as to ensure to them the redress of any grievances they may labour under, in the way prescribed by the Laws of their Country.

That Heaven may bless your Excellency, the other branches of this Legislature, and the whole body of this Province, that all parties of Christians, may unite as one man to strengthen your hands at this Season That you may weather the Storm with dignity to yourself and Government, and compassion to the deluded, and unwary, and be long continued among us a Pattern, and Patron of Virtue, and Piety, Steadiness and Condescension is the sincere Prayer of

Your Excellency's most Obedient
and most humble Servants

HUGH McCADDON
JAMES CRESWELL
HENRY PATILLO
DAV^d CALDWELL.

Hawfields 23rd August 1768.

Letter from the Presbyterian Pastors to the Presbyterian Inhabitants of North Carolina.

DEAR BRETHREN,

It is with great concern and regret that we view the present Opposition to Order, Law and Government in sundry parts of this Province, and it is with equal concern that we find ourselves unable to assert with truth, that not one of our Profession is engaged in it; It is however our hope and wish, that the number of regular Presbyterians, among the present Insurgents is very small, and to those who may have been seduced from the peaceable Department and Loyalty of their Profession & Ancestors, we affectionately address Ourselves as followeth.

We consider the scattered & destitute situation of the Presbyterian Church in this Province through the scarcity of Ministers, and the annual increase of our vacant Congregation, and tho' there are now a few Ministers settled among you, and the reverend Synod of New York and Philadelphia have heard your unfortunate Intreaties, and sent you annual supplies for some years past, yet it must be confessed there are sundry, especially of the younger sort who have been bred up in this Wilderness, ignorant of the Principles and Practices of their Ancestors, which we can assure them have always evidenced a zealous attachment to the Protestant Succession in the present royal Family, and a spirited opposition to every measure concerted at home or abroad, to shake the present happy Establishment and this on the principles strictly enjoined by the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechism.

We are sensible the movers of the present Insurrection, have put the cry of King, Loyalty, Allegiance, into the mouths of their unwary Adherants; which doubtless was the snare that caught you and many others, but we earnestly recommend to you to consider, that the opposition is directly levelled against Government and Law; that the Oath is what the Law nowhere prescribes, and that Oath to do unlawful things viz: to call Officers to a Settlement, in a way the Law has not allowed, and lastly that Oath is taken not to pay their Taxes, expressly contrary to the Laws of our Country, and the plain word of God. These things should detach every loyal Subject from them especially as you are assured by the Governor's Proclamation, that Justice will be done on all that have oppressed you on proper complaint, by a due course of Law. Should any object that they are bound by this Oath, we answer, such Persons have involved themselves in guilt by taking such an unlawful Oath, and greater guilt will lie upon them if they keep it, We therefore tenderly sympathizing with such do recommend to them Repentance for taking that Oath, and give it as our opinion that it ought to be broken — We pity, we compassionate the poor, and share with them in all their distresses, but remember Brethren the remedy for Oppression is within the Compass of the Laws of your Country — Let such of you therefore as have been drawn into this unhappy confederacy, return immediately to your Duty and Loyalty, remembering the Divine authority that has enjoined "Let every soul be subject to the Higher powers, for there is no Power but of God; the Powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever

therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the Ordinance of God, and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation; Wherefore ye must needs be subject for Conscience sake; For this cause pay your Tribute, also rendering to all their dues; Tribute to whom tribute is due &c. Romans 13th

Submit yourself to every ordinance of Man for the Lord's sake, whether it be to the King as supreme, or unto Governors as those that are sent by him for the Punishment of Evil Doers, and for the Praise of them that do well. And We earnestly recommend to the whole Presbyterian Body, in this Province a Spirit of Loyalty and cheerful Obedience to Law and Government, that you may transmit to your Posterity the reputation you derived from your Ancestors, secure the continuance of your Civil and Religious liberties, and merit the future notice and indulgence of the Legislature; that you may all live soberly, righteously and Godly as the dutiful Servants of Jesus Christ, is the hearty prayer of your ready Servants and Affectionate Pastors

HUGH M^cCADDON
HEN^r PATILLO
JAMES CRESWELL
DAVID CALDWELL.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

As it has been my misfortune to be unhappily drawn into this erroneous, weak and silly notion of what is called by some People a regulation which I find to my great grief and sorrow to be nothing less than a confusion, I was chosen amongst some others to go up to Hillsborough on the 23^d of last month on some business relating to the affair, but had not the happiness of seeing your Excellency which happiness I think would have contributed greatly to my satisfaction. But I had the good fortune to see the honorable Colonel Fanning who partly convinced me of my error, by his willingness to satisfy Us of every particular that lay in his power, which was quite contrary of what had been reported of him. And now I am so fully satisfied of that Gentleman's goodness and condescension, and of your Excellency's goodness and clemency by your so kind and just Proposals made to the People for determining the matters that I am determined never to have any further concern in the affair, contrary your Excell^{ty's} Will and Pleasure. Therefore I finding myself in

Duty bound to beg your Excellency's pardon and clemency for my past misconduct and y^r Protection for the remainder of the Time which God in His great goodness has allotted me, so I shall ever pray for your Exc^{ty's} happiness, and Preservation in this world, & that you may receive a Crown of Glory in the World to come Therefore I remain for the time to come with all submission

Your Excellency's most humble
and obedient servant

GEORGE HENDRY

Bear Creek Orange County August 28th 1768.

Association Oath taken by the Principal Officers of Government and a large Body of Inhabitants in Orange County.

I, A.-B., do sincerely promise and swear that I will bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Third. — So help me God.

I, A. B., do sincerely and faithfully promise and swear that I will with Heart & Hands, Life and Goods, maintain and defend His Majesty's Government and the Laws and Constitution of the Province of North Carolina, against all persons whatsoever who shall attempt to alter, obstruct or prevent the due administration of the Laws & the Public Peace and Tranquility of the said Province. So help me God.