

Province of the Massachusetts Bay March 3 1773
 Sir, your Letters of September 3 and Nov: 14 last have
 been Communicated to this house and Considered -
 We cannot help Expressing our Great Surprise
 and Concern that when matters of the most alarming
 nature are from time to time taking place
 at y^e Court of Great Brittain Relative to the Colonies
 and attempts are so often made to strip this people
 of every natural and Charter Right: that a friend to
 America a Native of this Province, and an Agent
 for one Branch of its Legislature, should not have
 Given the Earliest notice of the impending Evil.

It seems His Majesty has thought fit to order
 that the Governor of this Province and the Justices of
 the Superior Court should be Supported independent
 of the free Grants of this people! An Innovation of ^{the} most
 Dangerous tendency.

An Act was pass'd the last Session of Parliament
 Entitled an Act for the better Preserving His Majesty's
 Dock yards Magazines, Ships, ammunition, and Stores,
 whereby any person accused of a breach of said Act may
 by force be removed from his Connections, vicinage, and
 friends, more than three thousand miles in order to a trial
 in any County in England for a Suspected Crime within this
 or any ~~other~~ other Colony in America this is a most
 alarming infraction upon the Rights of the Colonists.

We hope the obstruction to the transacting
 business at the Secretaries office are in some measure removed
 by the appointment of a new minister for the American
 department but the machinations of the

the unwearied, and inveterate Enemies to the Rights of this People we fear will prevent any good Effect from all the Efforts we can make in this way to save our Devoted and Sinking Country from utter Ruin. Although the House has taken Exceptions at your neglect of them while those Important matters were in Contemplation they have renewed your Grants of Six hundred Pounds and caused the same to be laid before the Governor whether he will give his assent to it as yet uncertain but we hope the prohibition he has been under with respect to this matter will if it is not already, soon be taken off.

Enclosed you have a Petition to the King and letters to Lord Dartmouth which we desire you would peruse and deliver to his Lordship. The House expects you will exert yourself to the utmost to obtain a Rescission of those acts so oppressive to the Colonists and those orders of the Crown so destructive of the Charter Rights of this Province in Particular. If these ~~measures~~ ^{measures} are unalterable fixed this Province will scarcely have one Charter Right worth Contending for.

To agent Franklin