"A Lover of Order" to the Printer of the New Hampshire Gazette, December 23, 1774

Portsmouth, December 23 [1774]

Mr. Printer,

As the Affair of Removing the POWDER and some GUNS from the FORT, hath been a Matter of some speculation, I was determined to enquire and judge for myself; and find upon critical Examination, that the People of the Province of New-Hampshire are well known to have supported the Character of loyal Subjects of his MAJESTY, and have been distinguished for their Obedience to all Subordinate officers, without carefully attending to the present popular Patriotism of this Country. So far from pushing themselves into the Front in the present unhappy Disputes, they have been blamed for falling too far in the Rear. ? But what will not the great Law of Nature, that Law of self preservation, the Love of Life, and it's dear Connections, at length effect? Alarmed with the Tendency of the Quebec Act, with Accounts that the Canadians and Indians (confirmed by some late Depredations committed by the latter upon the Frontiers of a neighbouring Government) were to be call'd forth to enforce the late Acts of Parliament, so disagreeable to all the Colonies, long inured to defend themselves in the wide extended Frontiers of this Province, by their own Valour, against the restless and cruel Savages of the Wilderness without any other Aid, and while destitute of Arms necessary for such defence, finding that his MAJESTY IN COUNCIL, not knowing their peculiar defenceless State, had been pleased to prohibit the Exportation of Powder, Arms and other warlike Stores to the Colonies without special Licence. ? Some of the good People of this Province, in the wonted honesty and Simplicity of their Hearts, imagined that nobody would have just Reason to complain of their too great Forwardness, if they seasonably removed some of the Warlike Stores from the Fort nearer to their Frontiers, when the Fears of the Inhabitants were most excited and where they had too great Reasons to think such Stores would be soon wanted. Which they accordingly effected, without any great Tumult or Opposition; as it was not suspected that they had any disloyal or bad intentions. I give this simple Narrative of this Transaction, to prevent any Colouring or Exaggerations therein that may be made by the Foes of America.

A LOVER OF ORDER

1. *New Hampshire Gazette*, December 23, 1774.

Document Information
Date:
23 December 1774
Object Type:
Letter