
We cannot omit, but manifest to you our Absolute dislike of your Late Proseeds (if our Information be true) which from Credible Persons of our Colony have beene Asserted, and Confirmed by Several of yo.r Court. That you have by order of yo.r Court Determined to deprive us of our Just rights and Priviledges in the Narrogansett Country (Alias Kings Province) Gratiously granted to us in our Charter by his Majestie, and confirmed by his Honorable Commiss[es].n By vertue of which power wee have peaceably enjoyed the Government and disposition of other Priviledges therein for several yeares past; There= fore much strange that you should (under Pretence of subduing the Indians) Manopoliſe our Priviledges by forewarneing of our Inhabitants from setling upon their owne Plantations (in sayd Narrogansett) that were forced, by reason of the late Warr with the natives to desert their habitations for the security of their lives with what Else of their Stocks and moveable things they could Preserve, till way by the providence of God should be made for their returne to their owne as afores. Its well knowne that the United Colonys did deserte severall of their out Plantations, and some were by the Enemy drove and Necessitated soe to doe for safety of their Lives; if for that caufe onely the Colonys should loose their Charters rites, and Peticuler Persons their Lands and Priviledges it would to them (and all Rational Men) Apear radicalus, and without doubt disapproved by his Majestie, if should come to A hereing; Wee are very apt to believe that if matters comes to A Just inquiery concerning the caufe of the Warr with our Narrogansett Sachims which were Subjected to his Majestie, and by his foresayd Commiss[es]n taken into Protection, and put under or Governm', and to us at all times manifested their Submiſsion by Apearance when sent for; neither was there any Manifestation of Warr against us from them, but always the Contrary, till by the United Colonys they were forced to war, or such Submition as it seemes they could not subject too, thereby Involveing us into such hazards charge and losse which hath fallen upon us in our out Plantations as aforesd. Its well knowne (and owned) that his Subjects have Liberty to perſue his knowne Enemies, in order to subdue them in any part of his Dominions where they come, which cannot but be owned A great fav. and that for such kindenesse, and Priviledges, the sayd Inhabitants should loose their Poseſsions, cannot but be looked att A~ great Oppreſsion, and Ingratitude, which to deale plainly is our caſe. Considering or number of People, but admitt the caufe ever soe Just, Aproved and Alowed by his Majestie on yo.r parts as to the sayd warr (as it is well knowne (and owned) that his Subjects have Liberty to perſue his knowne Enemies, in order to subdue them in any part of his Dominions where they come, which cannot but be owned A great fav. and that for such kindenesse, and Priviledges, the sayd Inhabitants should loose their Poseſsions, cannot but be looked att A~ great Oppreſsion, and Ingratitude, which to deale plainly is our caſe (if In= formations be true as Afores.) is it not Suffient, that as God hath made you (with the Assistance of the Pequots and other Indians) Instrumens to subdue those you made Warr with, and have had many Priviledges in our sayd Colony wthout Interruption from us, And for or sayd Kindenes you Indever to reward us with the Depriving us of or Just rights, and or Inhabitants of their Setlem' upon their owne againe, will apear very unjust. And further, to sugggest that the Land was left voyde, and therefore free for others to Setle, we say, in as much as or Authority
Saw cause to draw or People into A nearer Compass, threby to preserve their lives and Estates, which true Wisedome would lead all Men too; did thereby mainetaine ~ or Colony in being; but had or Colony bee wholly deserted and the People and Authority Vanquished there might have bee some Culler. Soe hoping you ~ will take the Premif. into yo' serious Considerations, and Avoyd any future Provocations, by threats, or Actions in our sayd Bounderys, other wise you must Expect our Opposition to the uttmoſt of or Abilities. And further know, that or Intenions are, if violated of or Just rights by yo’ Authority, doe purpoſe with all Expedition to make Application to his Majestie, The ~ Confequence of w’th may prove Inconveniant to some. but blame not us who ~ are forced thereto; but it is rather our Hearts desire Peaceably to Injoy our owne, and with you, and all Men to live Neighborly and frindly, which is the desire of yo’ very Loveing ffrinds and Neighbors. ~


P John Coggeshall Record.'

[folio 2: blank]

[verso:]

To o’ Honored ffrinds the Gov’ and Gen. Aſsembly of his Majesties Colony of Connecticut Present with care. ~ Or in case the Aſsembly be not Now sitting, To the Gov’ and Councell of sayd Colony. ~ There be delivered.

Rhode Island

Letter from Gov. RI. to Con. R.I. Hist. Soc.
P. 195
Oct. 25. 1776

Rhode Island