

From the Appearances they afford you in repelling its
invasion - that you would assure them that the Honble
the Congress have thro' us declared, that they hold their
Rights as dear as their own, and that in their Union
with them they will exert their utmost Endeavours
to procure, for them and their posterity the blessing of free
government, and that Security to their Property and Person
which is derived from the British Constitution - that they
hold sacred the rights of Conscience, and will never disturb
them in the free enjoyment of their Religion -

The Honble Congress recommend it to you to use your utmost
endeavour to procure a free meeting of the people in their
several Parishes, out of whom to chuse a Provincial
Convention who will form such Rules and regulations as the
present exigencies may render necessary for their Province
from this body they hope, that delegates will be chosen to
meet and cooperate with them in such measures as
they shall think necessary for their mutual security &
against the unjust Violences of an arbitrary Ministry
At the unsettled state of the Province, should present a
free and full Representation of the whole Colony, yet the
Honble Congress will acquiesce in the choice of such
several Parishes and districts, as may think it proper
to send delegates - or if previous to their meeting in
Congress they should have any Difficulties, which it is
out of your Power to remove, a Committee of Congress
will at any time, when the Communication is open
be ready to meet and confer with them on the Subject
at Albany, Montreal, or any other Place, which they

May

15
They think proper to appoint - We need not
mention to you the possibility of purchasing in the
severest manner any of our Troops, who should never
forget the duty that they owe to us and our worthy
Allies, as to offer the least injury, either to their
Property or Persons - We know not, if our Arrangements
consist of the Army, but presume you have not
in the distribution of Commissions ever looked the least
of those who deserve well of their Country, nor suffer
those to be Advanc'd who have opposed its Cause -
General Schuyler has inclos'd our last Instructions
which will show you the Design of the Congress, with
respect to Quebec, but which from your letter
we find you have already in some measure anticipated
He also also gives you our Orders with respect to the Clothing
and Bounty to the Troops, in the management of which
we must rely upon your Wisdom, and doubt not
that the Congress will make good any engagements
into which you may have ~~ent~~ found it necessary
to enter - The other Subjects of our Conference
with the General, some of which are mentioned to you
in his letter and others wanting the sanction of
Congress, we think it unnecessary at present to
trouble you with - The post being just at the
Depart we cannot enlarge, if any other opportunity should
offer, we may write you again before we leave this -

Me