

strong, intended to send 600 against the Massachusetts, and 400 against those in Connecticut, but w^hall signifying yⁱ if I should desire them to move toward Mendon, they were expressly forbidden to goe w^h me, except we had certain intelligence that the whole body of the enemy was there, and except I would march w^h my full 300. I told their Major they did but instruct me how to answer them, should they call me to their parts. There is talk of a great festival meeting of Indians at a place near Stratford. What they are, or whether they may be counted or pursued as enemies, we know not. The people in these Towns, especially y^e younger sort, have showed themselves soe ready to desert the Towns, some already gone, others talking of and p^rparing for it, so as I counted myself necessitated to prohibit them by a proclamation, till I might hear from yo^rs: it being so cross to the safety and good of the whole, yⁱ y^e plantations should have their own inhabitants desert them, and y^e Country be necessitated to send men to guard them, o^r else expose them to ruine. I therein ventured to the utmost extent of your order. I beseech your pardon in, and orders about it, as also how to behave ourselves; whom to leave here and under what command.

Together with the proclamation I thought mete, according to your orders, to declare to Major Treat that his drawing off his forces was against the articles of confederation. A copy of this and their declaration upon it, I