

SOUTH-CAROLINA, NINETY-SIX DISTRICT.

By the Honourable WILLIAM-HENRY DRAYTON, Esquire:

**W**HEREAS, by Commission from the Honourable the Council of Safety for this Colony, dated the 23d Day of July last, I am upon a Progress through the Country, "to explain to the People at large the Nature of the unhappy Disputes between Great-Britain and the American Colonies; to endeavour to settle all political Disputes with the People; to quiet their Minds; and to enforce the Necessity of a general Union, in order to preserve themselves and their Children from Slavery:" AND WHEREAS the Progress having been continued almost through the Colony with Success to the State, Satisfaction to the People, and, upon the most perfect Principles, tending to promote Peace and good Order; for the Purposes of the Progress aforesaid, I did appoint, that a Meeting of the People should be held, on Friday next, the first Day of September, at the Ridge in the District aforesaid: BUT WHEREAS one Moses Kirkland having, without lawful Authority, assembled Men in Arms, in the District aforesaid, it is but too evident, that, to his Treachery against this Colony, he means to add Crimes of a deeper Dye, and, by Force of Arms, to violate the publick Peace: Wherefore it is become inexpedient that the intended Meeting of the People should be held as aforesaid, lest the Meeting should furnish Occasion for civil Bloodshed, which it is our Purpose to avoid as long as may be possible.

AND WHEREAS, by the Arts, Frauds, and Misrepresentations, of the said Moses Kirkland, some weak and ignorant People have been led into Measures of so criminal a Nature, as, if persisted in, must inevitably involve them in Destruction; from Motives of Humanity, I therefore do hereby recommend to all such Persons, that they forthwith desist from following the Counsels of the said Moses Kirkland in Points tending to Sedition and Hostility; and I do hereby notify, that all such Persons as, without lawful Authority, shall assemble in Arms, in Company with, or by Instigation of the said Moses Kirkland, will be deemed publick Enemies to be suppressed by the Sword.

Given under my Hand, at Snow-Hill, in the District aforesaid,  
this 30th of August, 1775.

WILLIAM-HENRY DRAYTON.