

APPENDIX E.

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THE following is a copy of these resolutions, probably from the pen of Dr. Cotton Tufts: —

TO JAMES HUMPHREY, ESQ.

Sir: We the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Weymouth are assembled together at a time when the voice of distress is heard not only from every part of this province but from the continent in general; the burdens we feel and the greater we fear force out our groans and lead us to lay before you the distresses of our hearts with whom we have intrusted our most important Interests. And we have the highest assurance from your past integrity that no exertion of your abilities will be wanting to effect the removal of these evils. When we consider the difficulties and encumbrances on trade and decay of it brought upon us by some late act of Parliament together with the load of debt under which the Province labors we behold poverty rushing in upon us like an Armed man; but when we take under consideration the Stamp Act, with all its consequences, we can see nothing but misery and ruin in the province resulting from the execution of it and a fatal wound to the trade and interests of our Mother Country. The King our father whom we have always esteemed and revered will forgive us if we do not consent to our own ruin. We will presume upon their clemency that they will not insist upon our destruction; and therefore we do recommend to you decently and steadily to oppose any measures in the General Court that shall interest the province in any concern with the Stamp Act, or stamp papers, either directly or indirectly by the payment of any charges that may have arisen on their account, or by giving any orders for, or consent to the distribution of said papers inasmuch as the house of Representatives has no warrant, orders, or authority so to do; and we presume upon it that the

