

...ing from this source, too frequently happen, espec
ally in populous sea-port towns.

If you have been insulted and your life has been
endangered in manner as you have represented to
me, I must inform you that our laws afford you
ample satisfaction. Foreigners are entitled to the
protection of the law as well as amenable to it, equ
ally with any citizen of the United States, while
they continue within the jurisdiction of this Com
monwealth.

Any learned practitioner in the law, if applic
ed, will direct you to the mode of legal process in
the obtaining a redress of injury, if you have been
injured; and the judiciary court will cause due en
quiry to be made, touching riotous and unlawful
assemblies and their misdemeanours; and inflict le
gal punishment on such, as by verdict of jury, may
be found guilty. I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obedt. hble. Servt.

Captain Stanhope,

Mercury, Boston Harbour, Aug 2. 1785

Sir
When I had the honour of applying to your Ex
cellency to discountenance the disgraceful attacks
made upon me and the officers of his Britannick Maje
sty's Mercury, under my command, and to afford us your
protection, it was upon your positive assurances
to that effect in their presence, I rested my
hope. How much your conduct contradicts both that
and my expectation, is too obvious either to satisfy me
or even do credit to your self, for your Excellency must ex
cuse me when I remark, that I never received a letter
so insulting to my senses, as your answer to my requ
sition, yesterday. I am however, happy in finding a
much better disposition in the first class of inhabita
nts whose assistance I am glad to acknowledge as the
most acceptable after your apparent evasion from
the substance of my letter, and however well inform
ed your Excellency may believe yourself upon the laws
and customs of nations, in similar cases, allow me to
assure you, there is not one, no, not even the ally of
these States, that would not most severely reproba