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Portsmouth June 12<sup>th</sup> 1776

I hope you will excuse the Present Trouble as the  
Importance to me is of considerable weight  
with respect to my Petition for the Payment of my Salary as  
a Judge of the Superior Court which I thought as Secure as if I  
had it in hand as there was a like Settlement of all the three  
Branches of the Legislature for it. I am utterly as a loss to know  
by what principle it could be judged that 10<sup>l</sup> could be a  
Sufficient allowance for 75<sup>l</sup> when the half of that was due  
half a year before the Petition was Presented will it not be  
a very bad precedent for the the Supreme Authority to pretend  
to pay a Debt with scarce a seventh part & may not any  
Decree of the Present Authority be set aside by any future  
Government, for the grant was made by them who had the  
same Power which those who pretend to satisfy it with  $\frac{1}{7}$  part  
it is an old maxim Regis ad Exempla plerumque sequitur  
of the highest Authority, does not this <sup>determination</sup> tend to dissolve all  
contracts

Contracts, promises & Engagements; therefore let the Justice  
of the Case have its due Consideration if I had had the  
same Engagem<sup>t</sup> from a Private Man I should have lost  
my self safe unless he proved Insolvent let those who  
have been the Occasion of such a Determination consider  
whether it is agreeable to the Golden Rule therefore I  
pray you to have the matter reconsidered that the grant  
may be fully executed & Justice done to your Humble

Serv<sup>t</sup> William Parker

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Messrs We are Esq<sup>s</sup>