

unwillingness in most of the said Assembly, was occasioned chiefly (as Wee are informed, and have too much Cause to believe) by the subtile Suggestions of some who ought rather to have assisted in promoting all fitting meanes of preserving a good Correspondence rather then to raise, or cherish any Jellousies or discontents betweene vs, and the People there. But in regard the chiefest pretended Exceptions against those lawes were (as wee are informed) conteyned in the Act of Recognition of our Charter of the said Province from the late King of England and in that other for the Oath of fidellity to vs, wherein it seemes the words Absolute Lord and Proprietary (which Tyle is the same that is given vs by the said Charter, and the words Royall Jurisdictiō are stumbled at, by some there who seeme to doubt that the former words should inferre a Slavery in the people there to us, and the later Words exceed the power intended to vs by the said Charter Wee thought fitt hereby to declare, that as the former words importe noe such Odious and Sinister interpretation, Soe wee call God to Wittness) wee neither had nor haue any intention to inslaue the People there by them, or any other way whatsoever But indeede the Lawes themselves doe sufficiently clere our intentions herein to all Wellmeaneing men if they be well considered. ffor the Act of Recognition, and also the said oath of ffidellity haue both relation to our said Charter which provided that All Lawes shall be made by Vs, and our Heires there with the Consent of the ffreemen of our said Province or their Deputies, or the Maior parte of them, And by severall other Acts contained in the said Body of lawes there is Provision made for freedome of Conscience for freedome of Taxes, but such as shalbe laid with the Assemblies Consent; for freedome from Martiall lawe, but onely in tyme of Campe or Garrison, and within such Campe or Garrison; ffor freedom of being Compelled in any kind to Contribute to any warr, out of our said Province without the Consent of the Assembly; ffor freedome of Trade with the Natiues vpon reasonable Conditions tending more to publick good, and tranquillity, then to our owne advantage. How therefore under such Essentiall Provisions of Safety and freedome, any reasonable People vpon mature Consideration can haue any iust occasion of Jellousies of being enslaved, Wee nor Certainly any well-disposed Person can imagine. As to those other words of Royall Jurisdiction, Wee doe hereby declare that it is intended by our said charter that wee should haue all such Jurisdiction there as the Bishops of Durham at any tyme heretofore ever had, Excersied, or enjoyed, or might haue had Exercised, or enjoyed in Temporalls within the Bishoprick or County Pallatine of Durham in the Kingdome of England, And Wee are well satisfied by learned

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