

have hitherto, with Patience lain under and submitted too; hoping that the same Hand of Providence, that hath sustained us under them, would at length in due time release us; and now at length, For as much as it has pleased Almighty God, by means of the great Prudence and Conduct of the best of Princes; Our most gracious King *William*, to put a Check to the great Innundation of Slavery and Popery, that had like to overwhelm *Their Majesties* Protestant Subjects in all their *Territories* and *Dominions* (of which none have suffered more, or are in greater Danger than our selves) we hope and expected in our particular Stations and Qualifications; a proportionable Share of so great a Blessing. But to our great Grief and Consternation, upon the first News of the great Overture and happy Change in *England*; we found our selves surrounded with Strong and Violent Endeavours from our *Governours* here, being the Lord *Baltimore's* Deputies and Representatives, to defeat us of the same.

We still find all the means used by these very Persons and their Agents; *Jesuits*, *Priests*, and lay *Papists*, that Art or Malice can suggest, to divert the Obedience and Loyalty of the Inhabitants from Their Most Sacred *Majesties*, to that height of Impudence, that solemn Masses and Prayers are used (*as we have very good Information*) in their *Chappels* and *Oratories*, for the prosperous Success of the *Papish* Forces in *Ireland*, and the *French* Designs against *England*, whereby they would involve us in the same Crime of Disloyalty with themselves, and render us Obnoxious to the Insupportable Displeasure of Their Majesties.

We every where hear, not only Publick Protestation against Their Majesties Right and Possession of the *Crown* of *England*; but their most Illustrious Persons villified and aspers'd with the worst and most Traiterous Expressions of Obloquy and Detraction.

We are every day threatned with the Loss of our Lives, Liberties, and Estates, of which we have great Reason to think our selves in Imminent Danger, by the Practices and Machinations that are on foot to betray us, to the *French*, *Northern*, and other *Indians*, of which, some have been dealt withal, and others Invited to Assist in our Destruction; well remembering the *Incurfion and Inrode* of the said *Northern Indians*, in the Year 1681; who were conducted into the Heart of the *Province*, by *French Jesuits*, and lay sore upon us, while the Representatives of the *Country*, then in the *Assembly*, were severely press'd upon by our Superiors, to yield them an Unlimited and Tiranical Power in the Affairs of the Militia. As so great a Piece of Villany cannot be the Result, but of the worst of Principles; so we should with the greatest Difficulties, believe it to be true, if Undeniable Evidence and Circumstances did not convince us.

Together