

should thinke it fitt that those who had bene faithfull to vs, and don good Service in the Recovery, and Preservation of that Province vnder our obedience should be deprived by lawe of their iust dues truely therein, they confirme what they afterwards also write in the same letter (videlicet) that they understood not the said Sixteene Lawes for if they had, and well considered them they would haue found in them a speciall provision made for satisfaction of all those who had served, and bene faithfull to vs, in the said late troubles there by an Equall Assessment vpon all the Inhabitants of that Province, which is the iustest and vsuall way in all Civill Kingdomes and Commonwealths for defraying of publick charges. It was never yet heard of, in any other Christian Countrey, but there, that vpon any occasion of forreigne or domestick warr a People should be unreasonable as to expect that the Prince or State should beare the charge thereof out of their owne privat and pticular fortunes which would putt them into a farr worse condition then the meanest Subject, because farr more lyable to destruction then any other, whereas the Preservation of their Estates and persons ought to be in the first place provided for, and the last that should suffer any preiudice when there were no other remedy, left, But not vsed as wee have bene in the first place vndon. And such of the Assembly as were Soldyors neede not wonder as they doe in their said letter that Wee should thinke it fitt that a Levy should be made vpon themselves to pay themselves ffor in all other Countreys as by Experience is seene now in England) where any Officers or Soldyors have any Estate of their owne, their proportionable part of all Taxes raised for publick defence or other Charges is as iustly due from them out of their Estates to the Prince or State of every such Commonwealth, as any perticular Soldyors pay is due to him, for it is as naturall and iust that all People should contribute proportionably to their owne defence, as it is for any Prince or State to defend and protect them, Wherefore the Assembly there may cease to wonder, as they also doe in the said letter that such exactions should be required, and made vpon a People who had bene loyall and faithfull to vs, and as they alleage had conquered that place for vs for which wee haue paid as appeares full dearely. Wee are well Satisfied that many there deserved very well of vs, and truely; as wee haue bene sollicitous to find out who they were. Soe we shall not be vnmindfull of them vpon all occasions to their advantage of honnor and proffitt as God shall enable vs in that place. But it is possible and too often seene that many persons who haue by some actions very well deserved of others, haue afterwards by other Actions quite drowned, and deservedly lost the meritt of the former, In which Case Certainly

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Journal
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p. 14