

the Courts & Assemblies from this Corner & poorest place of the province to the Center & best abilitated places thereof; Although wee conceive the motives there laid downe are hardly deserveing any Answer at all many of them being ag<sup>t</sup> the plaine matter of ffact some ag<sup>t</sup> reason & all ag<sup>t</sup> the Gen<sup>l</sup> good & wellfaire of the province yet because your Ex<sup>ncy</sup> has been pleased to lay them before us wee humbly returne this our sence of the same, that as to the 1: 2: 3: 4: 5: 6: 7: & 8: Reasons relateing to what his Lsp: has thought fitt to doe to the City of Sn<sup>t</sup> Maries it is noe Rule nor Guide to their Maj<sup>ties</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> Ex<sup>ncie</sup> nor this house itt seemes in some parts to reflect on his Lsp more then this house beleives is true or deserved by his Lsp.

2 As to the 9: this house say that it is ag<sup>t</sup> the plain Matter of ffact for wee can decerne noe Estate either laid out or to lay out in or about this famous City compareable w<sup>th</sup> other parts of this provincc But they say and can make appeare that there has been moore Money Spent here by Three degrees or more then this City & all the Inhabitants for Tenn Miles round is worth, And say that haveing had 60<sup>y</sup> od yeares experience of this place & almost a quarter part of the province devoured by it and still like Pharoehes Kine remaine as at first, they are discouraged to add any more of their Substance to such ill Improvers.

As to the Tenth & Eleaventh wee conceive the being of Sn<sup>t</sup> Maries soe neare Virg<sup>a</sup> is not soe great an Advantage to the Province as the placeing the Courts in the Center & Richest part of the same which is noe great distance from thence or Virg<sup>a</sup> either and nearer New Yorke & other Governm<sup>ts</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> wee have as much to doe with as Virgin<sup>a</sup> if not more & the place as well watered & as Co<sup>m</sup>odious in all respects as Sn<sup>t</sup> Maries w<sup>ch</sup> has only served hitherto to cast a Blemish Upon all the Rest of the province in the Judgm<sup>t</sup> of all discerning Strangers who perceiving the meanness of the head must Rationally Judge p<sup>ro</sup>porc<sup>o</sup>nably of the body thereby.

To the 12: 13: & 14: they say that they doe not hold themselves accountable to the Mayo<sup>r</sup> & his Bretheren for w<sup>t</sup> they doe for their Countreys Service nor by what Measures they doe the same nor what time they shall take to doe it in nor for what Reasons and are & will be as carefull of the Records & properties of the people as the pet<sup>rs</sup>

To the 15<sup>th</sup> the house say the pet<sup>rs</sup> offer faire as they have done formerly but never yet performed any & this house believes that the Gen<sup>l</sup> welfare of the Province ought to take place of that sugar plum & of all the Mayo<sup>rs</sup> Coaches whoe as yet has not one.

To the 16: this house conceive that the City of Sn<sup>t</sup> Maries is very Vnequally Rankt w<sup>th</sup> London, Boston, Port Royall &<sup>ca</sup>