

Lib. C. B. pendency of Government on the People might be to their unwarrantable Designs & Proceedings, began so long ago, as in the year 1738, with their Attempts, to deprive this Government of the Support settled by a Law made forty years ago for that purpose by Questioning the Validity of it, and also to render all the Officers of Justice subservient to their Will & Pleasure by denying the Right and Authority of ascertaining the Officers fees—legally vested in the Proprietary of this Province by the Royal Charter granted by King Charles the first: These and several Other less material Points were laid as the Ground Work of the Uneasiness intended to be raised for disturbing the Peace and Safety of this Part of Your Majestys Dominions, and in order to furnish themselves with Money for their unreasonable purposes, they framed a Bill for raising a considerable Sum to be at their own Disposition under Pretence of enabling them to lay before your Majesty their several intended Aggrievances, but which Bill was introductive of such mischievous Consequences to this Government in particular and Every other in general in point of Precedent, that the Upper House of Assembly was obliged to reject the same for the many unanswerable Reasons then given: This Attempt failing, the next step they took, was, by vilifying the Government and inflaming the People to procure Subscriptions for several Sums of Money in Order as was pretended to carry their Complaints before your Majesty

p. 219 However pernicious This Method of Proceeding might be to the Order and good Rule of Government and Society in General, yet This Government was so thoroughly convinced of the Unreasonableness of their Clamours, and at the same time so desirous of being directed by your Majestys Wisdom and Justice, that although their Designs could not be countenanced by a Legislative Concurrence, yet no Interruption was given by the Government in their Collections of Money by Virtue of such Subscriptions, since It was hoped, they had nothing else in View but to prepare and forward as soon as might be their affected Complaints for your Maj^{ty}s Determination; And had this been their only Aim, This Province might have been quiet and happy before this Time in a dutiful Acquiescence and Submission to the Royal Commands

But It is with the Utmost Reluctance and Concern, that We now declare Our Apprehensions that their Councils have some other Tendency than the Quiet and Security of this Your Majestys Dominions. And We most humbly presume Ourselves well warranted in these Suspensions by their continual Behaviour ever since the year 1738, by their Assuming to themselves a Power of ascertaining the fees of the Officers of the Courts of Justice by their own Authority, and by the little