

or Sex which long Experience hath Manifested, Tends very much to the Disturbance, not only of the Minister, but of those who would devoutly and Reverently perform their Devotions. For the Prevention of which for the future, upon the late Addition being compleated, and on the Seventh day of September 1751 we the Subscribers, who have for many years contributed very Considerably to'rds the said Parish Church, and the af<sup>d</sup> Expences, and Some of us by far the Most in the Parish, as the number of Taxables to Our names Severally annexed will make fully to Appear, conceiving Ourselves both ill treated and Injured by the Low Class of the Parishioners and others who assume to themselves (if but one Tax only) an equal Right with those, who Contribute the most, Personally applyed to the Vestry of the said Parish Viz. The Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Samuel Clegat the Honourable Richard Lee Esq<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Charles Yates Captain Arthur Lee M<sup>r</sup> Richard Smith M<sup>r</sup> Nathan Harris & M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Cottrell Vestrymen, Robert Yates & Edward Ford Church wardens at the usual Place Convened, and of them Severally Demanded Our Right Viz. that proper Pews might be Assigned us, wherein we might Exercise our devotions with Ease and know where to Resort with our Familys without Interruption, always having a Special Regard to the quantity of Pews and Numbers of Familys in the Parish, as well as the Number of Taxables We Severally Pay for the Numbers our Several familys Consist of, and the Characters we Severally bear not desiring anyone to be Excluded or debarred from the Church being very well Assured of Room Sufficient but only for Decency and Order sake; upon which Demand the Vestry Answered Viz. For granting it, The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Clegat the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Rich<sup>d</sup> Lee Esq<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Nathan Harris and M<sup>r</sup> Robert Yates; For not Granting it M<sup>r</sup> Charles Yates Cap<sup>t</sup> Arthur Lee M<sup>r</sup> Richard Smith M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Cottrell and M<sup>r</sup> Edward Ford, who further Answered that We should not have any other Right than in Common with the other Parishioners, neither had we any Right to make any such demand neither would they Admit this our Demand to be Entered in the Parish Register nor any Proceedings thereon to Appear

Now May it please your Excellency & Honours We your Petitioners conceiving Ourselves to be very much Grieved and Injured by this Proceeding of the Vestry af<sup>d</sup> Humbly Apply to you for Redress in the Premises; The Principal Objections our opposers make use of, that We have heard are, That the Church was Originally built by Subscription, that all Persons there are upon a Level, Distinctions there ought not to be made nor any Authority Exercised; This is a Doctrine we apprehend so Strongly Strikes at all manner of Govern-

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