

L. H. J. upon us not doubting, that when they are set in their proper light,
 Lib. No. 45 we shall have your Excellencys helping hand to the removal of them
 as real Obstacles to Our Happiness and prosperity, that the people
 of this Province are Subjects of Great Britain and entituled to all
 the Rights Priviledges and Liberties of that their Mother country,
 is a truth we hope none will attempt to deny; and that the Basis
 on which their priviledges are principally founded is the right they
 have, of not being subject to any payments whether they be Taxes,
 Dutys Imposts fees or under any other denomination whatsoever
 but what shall be raised settled and appointed by laws to which by
 themselves or their Substitutes they give their Assent is a matter we
 conceive can admit of no Contradiction

We therefore acknowledge ourselves at a loss to know by what
 right or law fourteen Pence Sterling for every Tun of Burthen has
 for a considerable time past been levied on Vessels trading here and
 not properly belonging to this province We very well know that
 an act was made in 1661 for raising half A Pound of Powder and
 three Pound of Shot by the Tun on such Vessels and we as well
 know that by that law the same was not appropriated to the propri-
 etarys for their own use, although they have ever since exacted the
 fourteen pence in lieu thereof and applied the same to their private
 [use]

We are not insensible of the Kings order in Council concerning
 that money in 1692 but beg leave nevertheless to say that whatever
 Obedience was paid to that Royal Order (which only did or indeed
 could regard the Application) yet the Act whereby it was pretended
 to be taken being repealed by another made in 1704 that Order
 must necessarily cease, and altho we dont immediately pay that
 money, yet as Merchants generally reckon Port and other dutys
 as Part of the cost of what they sell or Transact and account it as
 part of the price of what they purchase, we cannot but think it
 becomes a charge on the Province at last.

p. 884 We are sorry to find the Avenues to Justice in great measure
 shut up to the people by their being denied Access to some of the
 greatest Offices belonging to the Courts of Justice and refused their
 necessary Business there, without the severe Terms of entering into
 Bonds with Judgments some for fees before they become due, and
 others with conditions in large Sums on purpose to have recoveries
 in the Courts where the fees will arise to ten or more times the Value
 of the Principal debt which by the laws of this province might be
 recovered at the expence of half A Crown, and those Bonds yearly
 sent to the Sheriffs with discretionary powers to put them in Suit
 who by experience we find have in many Instances made the worst
 use of those powers in order to create fees for themselves as well as to
 the party who take such Bonds