

U. H. J. which it was enacted “ that all Charges arising from Time to Time
 Liber No. 35 “ by Defence of the Province against any Invasion of any Enemy, or
 April 18 “ against any Domestic Insurrection or Rebelling against the Public
 “ Peace of this Province or the Government established herein, and
 “ under the Lord Proprietary and his Heirs Lords and Proprietors
 “ of this Province by an Assessment upon the Persons and Estates of
 “ the Inhabitants thereof ” which Method of Assessment is further
 “ explained by an Act passed in 1661, to be an Assessment η Roll
 “ according to the usual Custom of this Province.

As this Matter has been the Occasion of much Altercation and
 Animosity in a neighbouring Colony /if a Right to tax the Quit
 Rents is claimed there/ and the Justification of the contending Parties
 in the Eyes of their Sovereign will greatly depend upon it's Determi-
 nation, it may be inferred from the Interest concerned on both Sides
 that the Contest will be diligently prosecuted, and skilfully managed
 the Subject of it fully discussed, and the final Determination of it
 most suitable to the Character of a wise and equitable Judge, and as
 p. 279 your Claim of a Right to tax the Quit Rents in this Province must
 probably stand or fall by the Determination of a similar depending
 Case this does not seem to be a proper Season for adhering to the
 Claim you have lately set up, as it would imply a Supposition of the
 Rights being certain and established whilst it is in Issue and unde-
 termined, besides should the Passage of it not be obstructed by any
 Disagreement here, & the Proprietary in Vindication of his Right
 dissent to the Bill which in it's Nature must be immediately carried
 into Execution /when notified to him the cancelling of £35000.
 in Circulation by the Publication of his Lordship's Dissent would
 prove such an Injury to many Individuals, and give such a Wound
 to the Credit of the Province as would not easily be repaired or
 healed.

We object to that Part of the Bill which impowers Tenants to
 recoupe notwithstanding any Covenant or Agreement to the Con-
 trary, because we think that no Breach of any Covenant or Agree-
 ment fairly made ought to have the Sanction of a Law.

We object also for the same Reason to that Part of the Bill
 which enables the Debtor against his own voluntary Contract to
 retain against his Creditor.

The Bill directs that no Money shall be applied for or towards the
 Pay, Subsistence, or Support of the respective Companies until
 Muster Rolls and Certificates shall be returned & that the Musters
 shall be taken Monthly, and that the Captain shall as soon as possible
 after any Muster Roll shall be taken by him make Oath before one
 of his Lordships Justices of the Peace in Manner and Form &^c and
 for every Neglect in any Captain to make and return such Muster
 Rolls he shall forfeit the Sum of £100: