

wherein it is recited, That whereas his Lordship had suffered many and great Injuries and Losses in the Disposal of his Stock of Cattle, and other his Lordship's Estate within the Province, which said Stock of Cattle, with other his Lordship's Estate, was engaged by *Leonard Calvert*, Esq; his Lordship's late Governour here, before his Death, to divers Soldiers here for their Pay for their Service in the Defence and Safety of his Lordship's Province, and since delivered according to the late Governour's Engagement aforesaid : Notwithstanding which, this Assembly being desirous to give his Lordship honourable Satisfaction therein, *Ordered*, that no Inhabitant should Sell or Transport any of the Cattle that had been his Lordship's, at the Times therein mentioned, but should preserve them and their whole Increase intire 'till the *March* following, or until his Lordship's Pleasure should be further known, on Pain of Forfeiting double their Value, &c. which Acts were thus Subscribed, The Free-Men have assented-----*Thomas Hatton*. The Governour hath assented-----*William Stone*.

These Records may serve to give your Lordship some Information concerning the Burthen of the first Seaters of your Province ; tho' in the above-Instances, the Charge (as we take it) was not for Soldiers against the *Indians* only, but also against the *English* Protestants that came from *Virginia* to seat at the River *Severn*, which is now the Seat of Government: And, in the same Year, we find an Act for the Defence of the Province against the *Indians* also ; so that your Lordship's Tenants had other Difficulties to support themselves under, besides what the recited Acts mention.

What Fruits then (may it please your Lordship) do we reap ! and what Reward for purchasing, occupying and rescuing Your Estate ! that was then but little more than a Name, from the Hands of those that all your Prerogatives mentioned in your Charter, could never have obliged to surrender up one Foot of, had not the Priviledges therein granted to the People, encouraged them to bear the Brunt and Charges of every partial Skirmish, by which, thro' Providence, they prov'd the happy Instruments of your Success ? Must our Reward be, to enthrall our selves for freeing and advanceing your Estate ? Is your Lordship's Business so well done, that you have no Occasion to be further just to the Conditions upon which we have serv'd You ? May You abhor the Thoughts : But, if your Lordship pleases to persist in this so unexpected Argument, we hope you will not blame us, if (in Time) you be convinc'd that what we have advanced is Truth.

But as we would give your Lordship a Hint (to give a History would be too prolix) of every Thing that may be necessary for your Lordship's right Information, we beg Leave to observe, that the Sentiments of the *Legislature* here (within our own Memory, and while we were under the immediate Government of the Crown,) appear to be consistent with those of former Times.

The Statute of *Bigamy*, 1 *James*, 1 Chap. 11. was thought to be convenient here ; but, because it was for Hanging the *Bigamite*, and Restrain'd to the People of *England* and *Wales*, and because Hanging was not accounted a Priviledge so as to bring it within the Words of the Charter ; therefore, in *April* Assembly, 1706, an Act of this Province was made to declare it in Force here. This is the Practice where located or dubious Statutes are suitable for us : But where general Statutes, or any Part of them are found inconvenient for us, and yet are such as by a Common-Law-Construction might be deem'd to affect us, the Practice has been to make Acts of our own to suit our selves where such Statutes or Parts of Statutes, did not suit us ; as