

in the Case of the Statute of Limitations, 21 *James*, Chap. 16 Sect. 3. we found the Times therein mentioned for the Limitation of Personal Actions to be too long; and in the Year 167---was made an Act here to lessen the Times, as particularly where that Statute allowed Six Years, we allowed then but Two Years, and since Three Years, and so of the rest; but as the other Part of the said Statutes suited us, we made no Act of our own to alter them because they suited us, nor to introduce them because they were introduced with our Ancestors as well as the Common Law, at their first Settlement: Instances of this Kind are too numerous to trouble your Lordship with.

But since we mention the Common Law, we beg Leave to observe concerning it, That we do not apprehend your Lordship denies us the Benefit of it, as being ( by the common-receiv'd Opinions of the best Lawyers, ) allowed to be our Right; but it's the Statutes only that you deny us. To allow us the Common Law, but not the Statutes, ( many of which are made for the correcting the Errors and Inconsistences of it, and to reconcile it with the present Times, ) would be but a Peice-meal Compliance with our Due by Charter, and instead of granting us all the Priviledges due to *English Men*, would be only allowing some of them, *viz.* such as were sanctioned by the Common Law only; but for the rest we should be obliged to depend upon your Lordship's Will, in which we cannot so securely place a Confidence as in the certain Measure of establish'd Laws.

We shall trouble your Lordship but with One Remark more concerning the Statutes, and that shall be from the Royal Grant it self; where ( in the Paragraph that gives your Lordship Power to alien your Lands, and the Purchasers to hold of your Lordship in what Estate soever should seem expedient to his Lordship and the Purchasers, ) there is an expresse Provision that it shall be lawful so to do, notwithstanding the Statutes of 18 *Edward 1.* commonly called *Quia Emtores Terrarum*, or any other Statute; which we hope sufficiently shews the Intent of the Prince that made the Grant, and the Sense of those Times, That the general Statutes of *England* did, or at least would ( by that Grant ) extend here, and that therefore such *Non Obstante* was Necessary, which otherwise would have been Useless.

As to the Usage of this Province in this Part, we shall not trouble you further than to beg your Lordship to be referred to your Lieutenant's Speech at the Opening this Sessions, which fully declares it as it is alledged by us.

And now we beg your Lordship to consider how much it must necessarily concern us to have our establish'd Rules of Law and Priviledge attack'd by your Lordship, with Objections to them (at least) as if our Constitution were but dubious; whereas, in Truth, it never has been dubious until your Lordship's late Instruction seem'd to make it so: It is a Case of that Consequence that requires our Concern, and the ill Success and the little Notice taken of our late Address to your Lordship, obliges us to press this Subject the more earnestly upon You; for that while these Debates are pending by Way of Address and Answer, your Instruction continues as the Rule of your Lieutenant's Administration, whereby our legal Constitution is render'd dubious and unsafe: We therefore, in most submissive Manner, intreat your Lordship to favour us with your determinate Resolution in the Case, with all that reasonable Expedition that may be consistent with your Lordship's Leisure and the Importance of the Affair, and that you will not take it Ill that we give your Lordship our solemn Assurance that as nothing has been wanting in us to give your Lordship a right Understanding in these Matters, nothing shall