

Interest, whatever Disputes we may have upon some Points, which I shall never insist on farther than I think my Duty in my present Station absolutely requires of me.

All that I wish is, that the respective Rights and Privileges of the Proprietor and People, may be fairly, clearly and fully Settled upon such a Foundation, as may leave no room for further Heats and Animosities, but that we may all jointly turn our Thoughts to the improving the many Advantages we have by Nature above many other of his Majesty's Colonies in *America*.

In the mean time, I shall never differ in Opinion from the Lower House of Assembly, without being ready to give my Reasons for my so doing; and I cannot but express my Satisfaction to find, that my Answer to your Address concerning the *Twelve Pence* per Hogshead for Support of Government, has appeared so reasonable to your House, that you hardly seem to endeavour to invalidate any thing that I advanced in it, as may be easily seen by any one who will carefully read my said Answer and your Address in answer to it, which is now the Subject of my Consideration.

You had in the beginning of that Address about the *Twelve Pence* per Hogshead, expressed a sort of total Ignorance of the Law of 1704, by which the Naval Officers collected the said *Twelve Pence*; to which I answered, " that the said Law was not only under the Consideration of the Lower House of Assembly in the Year 1733, but has been greatly canvassed in Conversation, by the Members of every Assembly that has met since that time, and that it has been universally looked upon by every Part of the Legislature since that Time, as a Law in Force and being, till lately, &c."

Your Answer to this is, " that the subject Matter of your late Address in relation to the Duty of *Twelve Pence* per Hogshead, &c. has not been fully considered or debated by your House before this Session, though objected to by many out of Doors, but you hope, your Silence and Meekness hitherto will not deprive you of the Right of Redress, now Application is made in order to obtain the same.

This is contrary to nothing that I advanced, but that it seems to insinuate that the Forbearance of Assemblies since the Year 1733 to fall upon this Law, did not proceed from a Belief of it's being in Force as I had observed, but only from the Silence and Meekness of the said Assemblies; which of us is in the Right in this, must be left to the Publick to judge.

As to the next Point, I assure you that I am very far from charging or even suspecting your House or any Gentleman in it, to have new Light in Religion, and I hope my Words can imply no such Thing, but as to Politicks, which