

themselves, sinking under the Yoke of Bondage, be well pleas'd that they fare no worse, than being brought to a State of Villenage.

Since your Excellency have been pleas'd to give us such strong Assurances of your Willingness to give a helping Hand to remove every Obstacle to the Happiness and Prosperity of the Province, we will humbly presume, in full Hopes of your kind Concurrence and Redress; to lay before you such Aggrievances and Oppressions as we take to be real Obstacles to it's Prosperity and Happiness. And we most humbly Hope your Excellency will not attribute the just Discharge of our Duty, or our moving with Decency, Order and good Manners in these Points wherein we feel ourselves sensibly Affected, to the Want of Moderation and Temper; or a due Regard to your Person. We assure your Excellency that we shall with the greatest Zeal and Coolness of Temper, pursue the general Good so far as we can, and avoid as destructive Precipices, any sinister or artful Practices of Self-interested or Designing Persons, let their Pretences be veiled over by what Glois soever, and that such shall in no ways influence our Words or Actions.

We hope your Excellency had the Public, as well as his Lordship's Interest at Heart, in promoting the Continuance of the Payment of Rents, and Alienation Fines, as the same had for some Time before been, by a Duty on Tobacco the Staple of this Province; and likewise that of Passing the Currency Emitted by his Lordship and the good People of this Province, in Payments to the Clergy and Officers: And with great Submission, we take leave to Judge favourably of those, who through a sense and desire of doing Good, opposed the same, altho' they may have been Mistaken in Point of Judgment.

From many Consequences we find, that this Government hath for some Time past, pursued it's own Profit and Benefit, but how far that turns to the Public Good, those who are sensible thereof will best Judge, and we humbly conceive, that when the Representative Body of the People refuse any Advantage offered, it must proceed from an Errour in Judgment, thro' want of due Reflection or impartial Deliberation, which we shall, from your kind Recommendation, make the best use of we are Capable, in what Affairs shall come before us.

This House is not acquainted with the Disposition of the Clergy in point of their Forty *per Poll*, and shall always bear a just Regard to that Reverend Body, nor attempt to intrude any Terms on them which may not suit their own Inclinations to Accept of, but shall always be ready and willing to receive such Proposals as they may judge suitable to make. Your Excellency is pleas'd to Vouch for his Lordship's