

How the *Jus Regale* is improved here, and made the Prerogative of his Lordship, is too sensibly felt by us all, in that absolute Authority exercised over us, and by the greatest part of the Inhabitants, in the Seizure of their persons, Forfeiture and Loss of their Goods, Chattels, Freeholds and Inheritances.

In the next place, Churches and Chappels (which by the said Charter should be Built and Consecrated, according to the Ecclesiastical Laws of the Kingdom of *England*) to our great Regret and Discouragement of our *Religion*, are erected and converted to the use of *Popish Idolatry* and *Superstition*, Jesuits and Seminary Priests, are the only Incumbents (for which there is a Supply provided, by sending our Popish Youth to be Educated at *St. Omers*) as also the chief Advisers and Councillors in Affairs of Government, and the Richest and most Fertile Land set apart for their Use and Maintenance; while other Lands that are piously intended, and given for the Maintenance of the Protestant Ministry, become Escheat, and are taken as Forfeit, the Ministers themselves discouraged, and no care taken for their Subsistence.

The Power to Enact Laws, is another branch of his Lordship's Authority; but how well that has been Executed and Circumstanced, is too notorious. His present Lordship upon the Death of his Father, in order thereunto, sent out Writs for Four (as was ever the usage) for each County to serve as Representatives of the People; but when Elected, there were Two only of each Respective Four, pick'd out and summoned to that Convention. Whereby many Laws were made, and the greatest Levy yet known, laid upon the Inhabitants.

The next Session, the House was filled up with the remaining Two that was left out of the former, in which there were many and the best of our Laws Enacted, to the great Benefit and Satisfaction of the People. But his Lordship soon after Dissolved and Declared the best of those Laws, such as he thought fit, null and void by *Proclamation*; notwithstanding they were Assented to in his Lordship's Name by the Governor, in his absence, and he himself sometime Personally Acted and Governed by the same; so that the *Question* in our Courts of *Judicature*, in any point that relates to many of our Laws, is not so much the relation it has to the said Laws, but whether the Laws themselves be agreeable to the Approbation and Pleasure of his Lordship? Whereby our Liberty and Property is become *uncertain*, and under the *Arbitrary Disposition* of the *Judges and Commissioners* of our Courts of Justice.

The said Assembly being sometime after Dissolved by *Proclamation*, another was Elected and met, consisting only of Two Members for each County, directly opposite to an Act of Assembly for Four, in which several Laws, with his Lordship's Personal Assent, were Enacted: Among the which, one for the *Encouragement of Trade*, and
Erecting