

“ Holders, or Ordinary-keepers, and in that of clearing out Ships, proceeding from his Malice, and Avarice, and even so for both his *Malignancy* had Predominance over him as to corrupt one of their Majesty's Council to quit, and desert the Honour of his Post, and accept the Office of County Clerk to the great Dishonour of his former Commission, Dissatisfaction of the rest of his Brethern, and the Wonder of the whole Country, and that it was a necessary Conclusion there was some private and secret Design, and Intrigue to be carried on by them, and the disaffected Party, to the Prejudice of the Government, and their Majesty's Service.

THAT there was a just Resemblance of Sir *Thomas Lawrence* in this Picture, drawn by the Pencil of Party Painters, you will have great Reason hereafter to disbelieve.

THE Representation against Mr. *Nicholson* was contained in a Letter addressed to Mr. *Paggan* the Provincial Agent, and was to the following Effect.

“ MR. *Francis Nicholson* being lately gone for *England* upon some private sinister Account, as we have Occasion to suspect, we take this Opportunity to acquaint you as our Agent therewith, desiring you to be very diligent in watching his Motions, and if he shall offer any Thing on his own Behalf, or otherwise, in Prejudice to this Government, or the present Governor, (Mr. *Copley*) who we are thoroughly sensible hath demeaned himself with that apparent Loyalty, good Conduct, Prudence, and Integrity to the Honour of their Majesties, and the general Satisfaction of the whole Country, that we are bound to pray for his Continuance among us, and cannot hear of any Ill against him, we desire you will appear on our Behalfs to defend the same by representing to their Majesties, and the Lords of the Committee, or wheresoever it shall happen to be; the true and genuine Character we have given of the one, and the contrary Disposition of the other, not unknown to you, we presume, and to most People upon the late Revolution, wherein he did in no small Measure demonstrate his Inclinations and Aversion to the present Constitution, and Frame of Government, which he sufficiently declares to be still his Resolution, in countenancing, favouring, and associating himself with none but Papists, and other of the disaffected Party their Majesty's known Enemies, who take the Freedom in his Company, and presume (if not by his Advice and Countenance) to drink Healths to King *James*, and frequently, among one another, to the Man, *that must have his Mare again, a Bye* Phrase they have to express their Desires of a Change, and of the Restitution of King *James* to the Crown, which they feed themselves with the Hopes of seeing effected before *May-Day*. We have too many of this Hue among us.”

If Sir *Thomas*, and Mr. *Nicholson* deserved the Characters given of them in the Representations I have recited, they were unworthy, indeed, of all Trust and Employment under their Majesties, and as they both possessed Offices, and were therefore very much concerned in vindicating their Conduct, so were they solicitous to wipe off the Aspersions thrown upon them in these Proceedings of 1692.

IN less than two Years after the Decease of Mr. *Copley*, Sir *Thomas*, who had been charged as you have seen with Avarice, Rapacity, Insolence, Disloyalty, and Corruption, being a Man of much spirited Activity pressed for, and obtained an Examination into the Truth of the Allegations against him, and in Consequence of it, the following Declaration was made by the Assembly.

“ The General Assembly, now sitting, with good Advice, and great Deliberation have duly considered all the Proceedings against Sir *Thomas Lawrence*, and do find in the same much more of Malice, than Matter, and that the whole Proceedings were arbitrary, wherefore they think themselves, as they are in Duty bound to do equal Right, to give a true Character of Sir *Thomas*, who in every Circumstance appears to be a Protestant, a loyal Subject to their Majesties, of great, and good Service to the Country, and both liberal, and generous in promoting, and contributing to what may tend to the Good, and Welfare of the Public, and for his peaceable, and pious Inclinations, his Sincerity, and Integrity of Life deserves, for the Honour of their Majesties, and the Benefit and Safety of the Subjects in General, to be impower'd and employed to assist in the Management of some particular Affairs, wherein their most Sacred Majesty's gracious Grant, and Favour may be hoped for.”

Now you see Sir *Thomas* in very different Colours.

Mr. *Nicholson* having succeeded Mr. *Copley* in the Government, it may be inferred that the Imputations of Disloyalty, and of an Attachment to the Popish Faction cast upon him, were groundless, and of this there is a further Proof: For in the Year 1695 many of the principal Persons, who had subscribed the Charge against him, joined in a Representation to the Lords of Trade, in which, after taking Notice of the Charge contained in the Letter to Mr. *Paggan* the Provincial Agent, they declared that, “ being apprehensive his present Excellency Governor *Nicholson* was