

WHAT Account should the Governor render, of what Use would an Account be? Would it be of any real Service to the Province should he produce the Bills of his Vintners, Grocers, Taylors, Butchers, &c. &c.?

SHOULD it appear from them that he had been so improvident as to exceed the Income, allotted for the Support of his Office, when competent, ought his Extravagance to bring a further Charge upon the Province? Should it appear, that by Economical Retrenchments he had laid by Part of his Income, ought he to refund it?

Two Points have been advanced, which may be considered as Objections to my Reasoning and therefore I will state, and examine them.

1<sup>st</sup>. THAT from the Year 1716 when the late Lord *Baltimore* was restored to the Government of this Province till 1733, the Duty was not collected under the Act of 1704.

2<sup>d</sup>. THAT by an Instruction from Queen *Anne*, after passing the Act of 1704, directing Three Pence out of the Twelve Pence per Hoghead to be applied to the purchasing of Arms and Ammunition it appears, something more was meant by the Terms "for the Support of the Government" than "the Support of the Governor."

LORD CHARLES, who had been deprived of his Office of Hereditary Governor at the Revolution, died in *March 1715*, and, upon his Decese, so much of the Act of 1704, as had given him a Compensation, *during his Life-time*, for his Sterling Quit-Rents, and Alienation Fines expired of Course. He was succeeded in his Title, and Estate by Lord *Benedict*.

UPON the Notification of the Death of Lord *Charles*, and of the Succession of Lord *Benedict*, by Governor *Hart*, the Assembly proposed, in Consideration of the Enlargement of Tobacco Hogheads to "grant Lord *Benedict* One Shilling and Six Pence per Hoghead, if he would be pleased to accept of the Impost as an Equivalent for taking his Rents, and Fines for Alienation in Tobacco, as his Noble Father had done, and humbly prayed the Governor to assist them in recommending the same to his Lordship, and proposed towards the Support of Government to make an [ \* ] Advance of Three Pence Sterling per Hoghead without which the Revenue would be very much diminished, and impaired."

THE Terms proposed by the Assembly were accepted, and an Act was accordingly framed, and passed, the third of *June 1715*; but Lord *Benedict* died before it was received in *England*, and was succeeded in his Title and Estate by Lord *Charles*, then a Minor, who was restored to the Government by King *George I*.

By this Act, which was to endure till the End of the next Session, that should happen after the Tenth of *May* ensuing, Fifteen Pence were given to the "King's Majesty, his Heirs and Successors for Support of Government, in Lieu and Stead of the Twelve Pence formerly imposed" viz. by the Act of 1704.

LORD CHARLES, the Heir of Lord *Benedict*, having received the Eighteen Pence per Hoghead under the above Act granting that Sum to Lord *Benedict*, upon the Conditions relative to his Rents, and Fines on Alienation, the Assembly in *August 1716* passed an Act "to confirm his Lordship's Acceptance of the Eighteen Pence per Hoghead formerly raised;" but tho' the Fifteen Pence per Hoghead given also by the Act to the King's Majesty his Heirs and Successors for Support of Government were likewise received by Governor *Hart* from the Time of his Lordship's Restoration (to wit) about Fifteen Months, no Objection was made, nor any Act of Confirmation thought to be necessary. Lord *Charles*'s Receipt of what had been granted to Lord *Benedict* was not authorized by the Act of 1715, and therefore an Act of Confirmation was passed; but the Fifteen Pence given to his Majesty, his Heirs, and Successors for Support of Government, did not determine by the Death of Lord *Benedict*, nor by the Restoration of Lord *Charles*, and therefore the Receipt of that Revenue stood in no Need of any Confirmation. It had not then occurred to any one that his Lordship was neither the Governor, nor Successor of his Majesty, and therefore was not entitled to receive what had been granted to his Majesty his Heirs and Successors.

THE Assembly in 1716, having taken the Act of 1715 under their Consideration, and aided the Receipt of the Eighteen Pence, because not authorized by it, would, without Doubt, have found Fault with, or confirmed the Receipt of the Fifteen Pence, had they not been of Opinion, that this was authorized by the Act of 1715.

[ \* ] When the Act of 1704 passed, an Hoghead contained about 400 lb Tobacco. Under this Act of 1715, it contained about 600 lb Tobacco.