

how a Man would Act in the last Extremity; but I think I should suffer a great deal before I could be too importunate for Relief; much more, before I could take upon me the Character of a Sturdy Beggar, and, like my two Rich Opponents, most unmercifully Abuse those, who are confessedly unwilling to bestow their Charity upon me, after I had first taken care to get enough from them to satisfy my present need, without asking their consent or being beholden to their good will. It is amazing, that these Writers should not be aware, that the Clergy may, with more Reason, urge the Plea of Poverty for obtaining their just and legal Dues to the uttermost Farthing, than these Writers can plead Poverty for the rest of the Community, for the Rich as well as the Poor, but particularly the Rich, to justify the withholding from the Clergy, their just and legal Dues, and transferring them to the greatest Gainers by that Scarcity, of which there has been so many exaggerated Descriptions, and so much ill-grounded Complaint.

I am no less astonished at Col. *Bland's* casting the Conduct of *Archbishop LAUD* in our Teeth; and not forgetting to compare us to *Romish Inquisitors*; and this too for secret Machinations; though he knows every Thing that passes among us, and more too, than I am with Col. *Carter's* seeming to dread some design upon his *Tithe Pig*. Had the former but just reflected upon his own Practice of Officiating as a Clergyman, in the Churches of the Parish, wherein he makes the most Conspicuous Figure; on his Reading the Public Prayers, and Delivering Sermons there, he might have found a fitter Parallel for the present State of the *Virginia* Clergy in the Time of *Cromwell's* Preaching Colonels, than in that of the Reign preceding; and, that a professed Friend of the Church of *England* should