

of Tobacco exported since the 29th of *September* 1733, has been Collected and Levied, from the People of this Province, without any Law, that we know of, to Warrant the same.

We have been indeed informed, by the several Naval Officers, That they levy that Money by virtue of an Act of Assembly, made in the Year 1704, entituled, *An Act for Settlement of an annual Revenue upon her Majesty's Governor within this Province for the Time being.* What Light this Act has hitherto appeared in, to your Excellency, we cannot say, but we hope, that when you have considered in the manner we have done, the several Acts made for raising Money for the Support of this Government, at the respective Times, when the same was in the Hands of the Proprietaries, or immediately in the Crown, you will be perswaded that those made in the one, had never been deemed to extend to the other, nor that his Lordship had a Right to the Money granted to the Crown, for the Support of Government, any more than to the Fines and Forfeitures arising on the Breach of Penal Laws then made, until Acts in his Favour were past in both Cases, on his being restored to the Government, with regard to which, and to the Sense of this House thereupon, we beg leave to refer your Excellency, to a Report made to us from our Committee of Aggrievances, and concur'd to by this House, a Copy of which we have herewith sent for your Excellency's perusal.

Your Excellency is too well acquainted with the nature of the *British* Constitution, to be informed from us, that it is the peculiar Right of his Majesty's Subjects not to be liable to any Tax or other Imposition, but what is laid on them by Laws, to which they themselves are a Party; and we do with the greatest Sincerity assure your Excellency, that it is in pursuance of this our undoubted Right, and for no other Cause, that we give you the Trouble of this Address.

We well know that a People living under a Government ought to be at the Charge of Supporting it, nor have we any other Intention, than to give his Lordship such an honourable one, as shall be adequate to the Ability of those we represent.

We have now prepared a Bill for an Honourable Support of Government, which is sent to the Upper House, and hope it will Pass into a Law, which will manifest the desire this House has of cultivating a good understanding betwixt the Government and People, to perfect which, nothing on our Part shall be wanting, and we doubt not of your Excellency's Endeavours and Concurrence, to so desirable an End.

We therefore pray your Excellency, for quieting the Minds of the People we represent, and to preserve to them the Rights of *British* Subjects, that