

ties, Representatives, and Officers here) the *Injustice* and *Tyranny* under which we groan, is palliated, and most, if not all the Particulars of our *Grievances* shrouded from the Eye of Observation, and the Hind of Redress. We thought fit for general Satisfaction, and particularly to undeceive those that may have a sinister Account of our *Proceedings*, to Publish this *Declaration*, of the *Reason* and *Motives* inducing us thereunto.

His Lordship's Right and Title to the Government, is by Virtue of a Charter to his Father *Cecilus*, from King *Charles* the First, of Blessed Memory. How his present Lordship has managed the Powers and Authorities given and granted in the same, We could Mourn and Lament only in silence, would our Duty to God, our Allegiance to his Vicegerent, and the Care and Welfare of our Selves, and Posterity, permit us.

In the First Place, In the said Charter, is a Reservation of the Faith and Allegiance due to the Crown of *England* (the Province and Inhabitants being immediately subject thereunto) but how little that is manifested, is too obvious to all unbiaised Persons that ever had any thing to do here; The very name and owning of that Sovereign Power is sometimes Crime enough to incur the Frowns of our Superiors, and to render our Persons obnoxious and suspected to be ill Affected to the Government.

The Ill Usage and Affronts to the King's Officers belonging to the Customs here, were a sufficient Argument of this; We need but instance the Business of *Mr. Bidcock* and *Mr. Rousby*, of whom the former was forcibly detained by his Lordship, from going home to make his just Complaints in *England*, upon which he was soon taken Sick, and 'twas more than probably conjectured that the Conceit of his Confinement was the chief Cause of his Death, which soon after happened. The other was Barbarously Murthered upon the Execution of his Office, by one that was an *Irish Papist*, and our Chief Governor.

Allegiance here, by these Persons under whom We Suffer, is little talk'd of, other then what they would have done and sworn to his Lordship, the Lord Proprietary; for it was very lately owned by the President himself, openly enough in the *Upper House of Assembly*, That *Fidelity to his Lordship was Allegiance*, and that the denial of the one, was the same thing with refusal or denial of the other. In that very Oath of *Fidelity* that was then imposed under the Penalty and Threats of Banishment, there is not so much as the least word or intimation of any Duty, Faith, or Allegiance to be reserved to Our Sovereign Lord the King of *England*.

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