

leges of *Englishmen*, they were scoffingly told, *Those Things would not follow them to the Ends of the Earth.* Unnatural Insult; must the brave Adventurer, who with the Hazard of his Life and Fortune, seeks out new Climates to enrich his Mother Country, be deny'd those common Rights, which his Countrymen enjoy at Home in Ease and Indolence? Is he to be made miserable, and a Slave by his own Acquisitions? Is the Labourer alone unworthy of his Hire, and shall they *only* reap, who have neither sow'd nor planted? Monstrous Absurdity! Horrid inverted Order!

THESE Proceedings, however arbitrary and oppressive, were but the Prelude: The Catastrophe was, if possible, yet more dismal. Having invaded their Liberties, by an easy Transition the next Attack was directly on their Properties. Their Titles to their Lands was absolutely deny'd by the Governour and his Creatures upon two Pretences: One, that their Conveyances were not according to the Law of *England*; the Other, that if they might be thought to have had something like a Title formerly, yet it now ceas'd by the Revocation of their Charters. So that they who had fairly purchas'd their Lands, and held them in quiet Possession for above fifty Years, were now oblig'd to accept new Deeds from the Governour, and pay for them a third part of their Value, in order to ascertain their Titles, or otherwise they would be seiz'd for the Crown.

It would be an Injury to Vertue, if I did not in this Place pay distinguish'd Honour to the Memory of an honest and worthy Patriot, Col. *Shrimpton* long since deceas'd, who being rich in Lands, was courted to receive new Patents *gratis*, that others might be drawn in by the Authority of his Example; but when he was appriz'd of their Design, he chose rather to have his Lands seiz'd (and they were seiz'd) than by such a base Compliance betray his Country-men into the Snares prepar'd for them. I should not have thus far enter'd into the Detail of Things so long past, but to shew from Experience, as well as from the Reason and Nature of the Thing, that Charters are not the *Causes* of arbitrary Government, but indeed *strong Works* rais'd against it, which once thrown down, Oppression rushes in like a Tide, and bears down every Thing before it.

HAVING