

Believe us Sir We are not Captious. We are not that *Turbulent People* we have been represented our Interest obliges us to be otherwise we desire nothing *inconsistent with the Prerogatives of the Crown* we desire none other than the Liberties Enjoyed by the other Colonies which his Majesty has graciously been pleased to promise by his Royal Proclamation.

Our distresses have arisen from the Malevolent disposition of our Gov^t & his Creatures. Were they removed and a Gov^t of humanity appointed and acquainted with the Constitution of English Men and an Assembly settled you would soon have the Pleasure of hearing of the increase of and success of this settlement for we are well assured 500 families would remove from the Massachusetts and settle immediately here and we know the Offer has been made to Gov^t and rejected upon their requiring an Assembly to be first settled that they might have proper Laws for their Regulation & Security of their Property.

As for the Evidences of Peoples leaving the Colony for want of an Assembly those that are already gone, it will take time to collect them as they are dispersed in the Colonies and tho' an hundred Families more are upon the Point of removing they are Extreme fearful least if they should be found out to have Given such Evidence they should be denied passes, for you must know the Gov^t obliges every master of a vessel to enter into Bond under the Penalty of fifty pounds forfeiture for every Person they carry away without Licence first obtained under his Hand and this is imposed, without the least Shadow of Law or Order in Council, nor can any Inhabitant go three miles from Town without a Certificate from a Justice of Peace so that Halifax is really a Prison to all Intents & purposes.

As for what you mention of the Depositions not coming under the Seal of the Province We beg leave to inform you That it has never been allow'd to be fix'd to any Papers but their own instead whereof the Gov^t fixes his Private Seal and must see all the Evidences or his Secretary therefore to Such kind of Evidence it would be impossible to procure that and for want of the Province Seal many have suffered in their Law Suits in the neighbouring Colonies or obliged to be at the Expence of sending Witnesses where their Suits have been depending which are some among the many Rights we are debar'd of.

But we hope before this Time many Complaints have reached the Ear of the minister and that it will shortly evidently appear if it is not already manifest That whilst this Gov^t has the least influence in American Affairs *so long will ruin and confusion attend them* and this Trnth General Shirley at Home & Lord Charles Hay when he comes Home will as We are inform'd make Evident to Demonstration for it is generally believed that what ever Specious Crime may be alleged against Lord Charles Hay his Confinement was solely owing to the Governors insinuations to my Lord L. . . d. . . upon a private disgust to that Lord for Examining too freely into the Expences of Batteries &c and speaking to Contemptibly of what had been done for the mighty sums Expended in Nova Scotia.

We had not touch'd upon those matters but as we think Providence more immediately seems to concern itself in discovering the Villianous Arts of the Authors of our Calamities and hope will direct its measures in pouring Vengeance on the man whose sole aim seems to have been to blast the good Intentions of his Country and to make all Subordinate to him miserable.

It is with pleasure we hear that the Acc^t of Nova Scotia will be strictly enquired into as we are very sure if they were sifted to the Bottom it will be found That not less than ten thousand Pounds, of Rum, Molasses (of which there was not less than 30,000 Gallons which alone was worth £3,000) Beef Pork &c of Provisions and much merchandize for the Supply of the Indians & french Inhab^t were taken in Beau Sejour neither distributed as a Reward to the Captors nor accounted for except some small Quantity of Beef & Pork sold to the Commissary M^r Saul on M^r Bakers Supply which was extreme bad & decay'd and certify'd by the Gov^t for Provisions sent by Gov^t Shirley.

That the Transports were kept near three months after the French Neutrals were ready for Embarkation at an immense Expence and the New Engl^d Troops kept 6 months after the service was