

but absolutely depend upon, the mere grace and will of the crown. It is easy to conceive, that contentions must naturally attend such a contradiction of sentiments. Most of their disputes however relate to the support of government. Before Lord Cornbury's embezzlements, the revenue was established for a long period, but afterwards reduced to a few years. The violent measures in Mr. Cosby's time led the assembly to the scheme of an annual provision. These are the words of that much-famed address of the house, to Lieutenant Governor Clarke, on the 6th of September 1737, previous to the change.

The true causes of the deficiency of the revenue, we believe are too well known to your Honour, to make it necessary for us to say much on that head. Had the conspicuous loyalty of the inhabitants of this province met with a suitable treatment in return, it is not unlikely but we should now be weak enough to act like others before us, in being lavish beyond our abilities, and raising sums unnecessary to be given; and continued the donation, like them, for a longer time than what was convenient for the safety of the inhabitants: but experience has shewn the imprudence of such a conduct, and the miserable condition to which the province is reduced, renders the raising of large sums very difficult, if not impracticable. We therefore beg leave to be plain with your Honour, and hope you will not take it amiss, when we tell you, that you are not to expect, that we either will raise sums unfit to be raised; or put what we shall raise into the power of a Governor to misapply, if we can prevent it: nor shall we make up any other deficiencies, than what we conceive are fit and just to be paid; or
continue