

the first Beginning to this Day without being burdensome to the Crown, though not without great Struggles and Difficulties.

'TIS TRUE, they did not commence Hostilities, nor even take up Arms of Defence, till they found by Experience that no other Means would prevail. The first Planters, far from using the barbarous Methods practis'd by the *Spaniards* on the *Southern* Continent, which have made them detestable to the whole Christian World, sought to gain the Natives by strict Justice in their Dealings with them, as well as by all the Endearments of Kindness and Humanity. To lay an early Foundation for a firm and lasting Friendship, they assur'd the *Americans*, that they did not come among them as Invaders but Purchasers, and therefore call'd an Assembly of them together to enquire who had the right to dispose of their Lands; and being told it was their *Sachems* or Princes, they thereupon agreed with them for what Districts they bought, publickly and in open Market. If they did not pay a great Price for their Purchases, yet they paid as much as they were worth. For it must be consider'd, that Land was of little Use to the Natives, and therefore but of little Value. They liv'd chiefly on Fish and Fowl, and Hunting, because they would not be at the Pains to clear and break up the Ground. And as for their Meadows and Marshes, they were of no Use at all, for want of neat Cattle to feed them, of which there were none in those Parts of the World.

THE *English* had no sooner made some necessary Provision for themselves, than they apply'd their Cares for the Benefit of the *Indians*, by endeavouring to bring them from their wild manner of Life to the civil and polite Customs of *Europe*. For this purpose, they mark'd out Land to build *Indian* Towns, supply'd them with all proper Utensils for Building, prescribed to them Forms of Government, and above all, omitted no Pains to bring them acquainted with the Gospel. After some Time, when it was found necessary, the Colony made a Law to forbid any Person's purchasing Land of the *Indians* without the Approbation of the General Court, to prevent their being over-reach'd or ill us'd in their private Bargains; and some Land, lying very convenient for them, was by another Law made inalienable