

owing, that they did not obtain it, and that this Loyal Corporation was the only one either in *Old* or *New-England*, that did not recover its lost Liberty under our late Glorious Deliverer King WILLIAM, 'tis now too late, and therefore to no Purpose, to enquire. A new Charter was order'd which the Province now has, and is not much more than the Shadow of the old One. For by these new Letters Patents, the Appointment of a Governour, Lieutenant-Governour, Secretary, and all the Officers of the Admiralty, is vested in the Crown. The Power of the Militia is wholly in the Hands of His Majesty's Governour, as Captain-General. All Judges, Justices, and Sheriffs, to whom the Execution of the Laws is intrusted, are nominated by the Governour, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council. The Governour has a Negative upon the Choice of Councillors, which is both *peremptory* and *unlimited*: He is neither oblig'd to render a Reason, nor restrain'd to any Number. All Laws enacted by the General Assembly are to be sent Home for the Royal Approbation or Disallowance. There is, besides, one very comprehensive Article inserted in this Charter, that no Laws, Ordinances, Elections, or Acts of Government whatsoever, shall be of any Validity, without the Consent of the King's Governour signify'd in Writing.

By these Reservations, the Prerogative of the Crown, and the Dependence of the Province thereon are in the most effectual Manner secur'd, if there had been any Danger before, as I hope in the Sequel of this Discourse, to demonstrate there was not. And yet it happens unaccountably that this Charter of King WILLIAM, so limited and restrained, is as obnoxious as either of the other which have their full and entire Force. Accordingly when about six Years since a Bill was brought into the House of Commons, and twice read, for regulating the Charter and Proprietary Governments, this was one among the rest, and the first nam'd in the Bill. And tho' the Honourable House thought fit, upon hearing the Petitions presented to them on that Occasion, to drop their Proceedings, there is Reason to believe they may at another time resume them. It is in this View, that I have put together my Thoughts on the Subject, which for Methods sake I have dispos'd under the following Heads.