

contracts and factors were kept there all the last war? Likewise how six or eight particular persons of the Governors party claimed an exclusive right to that trade? and why, if any body else attempted the same, their vessels were sure to be seized?

The Letter-writer having inveighed against the power which the Assembly have of managing the public money, as a thing attended with very pernicious consequences; his next design is to make it be thought, that this power is a kind of usurpation, by representing it as having been obtained in some collusive and unwarrantable manner. This is evidently his meaning, p. 9. where, after telling us, that the heirs of the old proprietor, after his death in 1723, being at law among themselves about the government and soil, “*Sir William Keith*, who was then Governor, “*falling into the hands* of the assembly, passed a “law, giving them the sole disposal of all public money, in manifest contempt of all the instructions of the proprietary family.”

This paragraph would insinuate to the world, that *Sir William Keith*, without the proprietor's direction or knowledge, for a sum of money given him by the assembly for that purpose, passed the act he mentions. This is a very charitable reflection on *Sir William Keith* and the then assembly; but the fact was thus: at the death of Mr. *William Penn*, the old proprietor, as the writer calls him, the province of *Pennsylvania* was not in that rich and flourishing condition which it is in at present, or has been for some years past; on the contrary, it was involved in great difficulties, and even reduced to a low ebb, being charged with a heavy mortgage: in order therefore to extricate the proprietors, his heirs, and discharge the province from that mortgage which was then threatened