At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis, in the County of Ann. Arundel, on the 11th, and endeth the 27th Day of October, in the Sixth Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable Charles, absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon, Lord Baron of Baltimore, &c. Annoq; Domini 1720, were Enacted the Laws following, viz.

Charles Calvert, Esq; Governor

An Act to restrain the Rigour of Prosecutions on Administra-Chap. tion, or Testamentary Bonds

Whereas it is represented by some of the Justices of the Provincial Court That a most oppressive and pernicious Practice is introduced of putting Testamentary and Administration Bonds in Suit in the Provincial Court, for the Non-Payment of small Debts, recovered in the County Courts, without ever suing out Writs of Fieri facias, or other Executions to effect the Estate of the Deceased, in the Executors or Administrators Hands, or without any Insufficiency of such Executors or Administrators, whereby the Act, entitled, An Act to restrain the ill Practices used by Sheriffs in taking Goods by Fieri facias, and selling them by Venditioni exponas, is entirely evaded, so far as it relates to Executors and Administrators, and the Person and Sureties of such Executors and Administrators are affected by such Suing the said Bonds, instead of the Effects of the Deceased: For Prevention whereof for the Future.

II. Be it Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That it shall not be Lawful for any Creditor or Creditors to prosecute any such Administration or Testamentary Bond for any Debt or Damages due from, or recovered against any Testator, or Intestate, or their Effects, before a Non est Inventus

¹ The text of the three Acts here given is taken from Bacon's Laws of Maryland at Large (1765). The remainder of the Acts at this session were either private or had expired or been repealed before the date of that compilation. The Acts are numbered consecutively with those of the session held in April of the same year.