

Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it further Enacted, That where any Lands shall be found Vacant or Escheatable in such Processioning, on which shall be the Plantation or Improvement of any Person or Persons, or be and lie next adjoining to the Dwelling Plantation of any the Inhabitants, that then and in such case, it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons to take up such Land or Lands Vacant or Escheat, until they shall have first applied to the Person or Persons whose Improvement or Plantation it is next adjoining, and that they refuse or neglect for and during the Space and term of Six Months, to proceed to the securing and taking up such Vacant or Escheat Lands; but that at the Expiration of the said Six Months, then it shall and may be lawful to and for such Person or Persons so as aforesaid first discovering the same, and applying as aforesaid, to take up and secure the same.

And in order to prevent Disputes and bad Neighbourhood where Vacant Land may happen to be in the midst or contiguous to Tracts or Parcels of Land belonging to several Persons, *Be it Enacted*, That in case such Persons, or any Two or more of them may incline to secure such Vacancy, such Two or more Persons as shall be legally intitled to the Lands contiguous to such Vacancy, in their own Right, or in the Right of any Infant to whom they or either of them shall be Guardian, shall have the Pre-emption aforesaid, and liberty of taking up such Vacancy in proportion to the number of Acres contained in the contiguous Tracts in which they are so as aforesaid Interested. *Provided* the same Vacancy shall be surveyed or taken up within Six Months next after the Discovery thereof: And the Person or Persons neglecting or refusing to comply with the terms before-mentioned, shall not have any Benefit of the Privileges hereby intended. *Provided also*, that such Guardian, who is in Possession of any Lands belonging to any Infant or Minor contiguous to such Vacancy as aforesaid, shall make use of the Liberty aforesaid to the Benefit of such Infant, and to the Use and Benefit of no other Person or Persons whatsoever.

And be it further Enacted, That where any Guardian shall secure as aforesaid, any Vacancy contiguous to the Lands of any Infant under his Guardianship for the Benefit of such Minor, if the said Infant, when he or she shall attain unto the Age of Twenty one Years, shall refuse to pay and allow unto his or her said Guardian, all his just Charges, Expences and Disbursements, in and about the securing the Vacancy as aforesaid intended for his or her Benefit, it shall and may in such case be lawful for such Guardian to hold and enjoy such Vacancy to his own proper use.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Controversy shall arise concerning the Notice being given as aforesaid, within Two Years after the taking up of such Vacant or Escheatable Lands, that then the *Onus probandi* shall be upon the Person who ought to have given the Notice as aforesaid; and if no such Controversy doth arise in Two Years, Possession shall be held and taken as good Proof that Notice was given according to the true intent and meaning of this Act.

This Act to continue for Fifteen Years from the End of this present Session of Assembly, and to the End of the next Session of Assembly which shall happen after the Expiration of Fifteen Years.



From the Paris A la main, April 6.

THE new works which were lately begun at Pizzighione, are actually finish'd; and that fortress is at present in a very good posture of defence.

Orders will very shortly likewise be issued out for the reparation and improvement of several other forts belonging to our Duchy.

The matter which was then and there principally in debate, was the several encampments which had been proposed to be form'd the ensuing summer; and we are assured, that it was then resolv'd, that instead of forming the troops into several camps, as was at first intended, there should be but two only; one on the Elbe in Bohemia, and the other in Stiria.

Petersburgh, April 7. The court has received an express from Constantinople, whose dispatches import, that the new

in a perfect harmony with the said powers, and to observe inviolably the treaties contracted with them: By which the intelligent apprehend, that the Porte will break no treaties with one power, unless it be in order to fulfil her engagements with another.

Naples, April 14. By the last advices which we have received here from Palermo, we are informed, that the Algerine corsairs had lately made themselves masters, not far from Alicant, of two of our ships laden with corn; but that the crews of both were all happily sav'd, except one man, who was unfortunately killed by a musket shot.

A courier lately arrived here from Madrid, but the contents of the dispatches which he brought with him, remain as yet an impenetrable secret.

L O N D O N

April 16. The Anson and Kent men of war will speedily be put into commission.

Letters from Cadiz dated the 31st past, mention, that the St. Miguel, a register ship, from Vera Cruz, was off Cape St. Mery, without a main mast; and that the commerce was in some pain for her, lest she should be met with by the Algerines, who had appeared in sight of that bay: The same letters add, that the captain of the Algerine croizer, of 32 guns, who had stopped three or four English vessels, had been severely bastinadoed for it at Algiers, and was render'd incapable of serving any more.

April 23. Letters from the Russian provinces bordering on Poland all agree, that many regiments are filing off from the heart of that empire towards Ingermania, Livonia, and Finland.

Advices from Dantzick, Elbing, and some other parts of Polish Prussia, inform us, that they are forming large magazines in Ducal Prussia; that they talk of having a camp between Koningsberg and Welau; and that, besides these warlike dispositions, they are building a considerable number of prames along the Vistula.

From Hamburg they write, that the bankers of that city have, within these few days, remitted considerable sums, from France and Spain, to the Swedish courts, which we may suppose will greatly contribute to preserve peace in the North. They add, that the Swedes continue to raise recruits with the utmost diligence at Hamburg, Lubeck, and other places in that neighbourhood.

Some letters from India, brought over in admiral Boscawen's fleet, take notice, that the French East India company are making several new settlements, and building forts; particularly one within sight of Madras: That they have actually a greater force in the East Indies than when they took Fort St. George; and that the English settlements, in case of a new war, run a great risque of being swallowed up, if not timely reinforced.

April 24. On Sunday last the Deal-Castle man of war, and admiral Boscawen's squadron, arrived at Portsmouth.

April 25. Letters from Carthage, in the Levant, dated the 15th instant, mention, that 4 new Javques, of 30 guns each, were fitting out in that harbour, and would put to sea next month to cruise upon the Moors, in company with two Spanish men of war, that were expected to join them from Ferrol. The same letters add, that a large Dutch fly boat was arrived from Santander, with 312 cannon, of different bores, designed for the ships that are to be built for his Catholic majesty's service; and that a great quantity of timber was already received for the same purpose.

A N N A P O L I S

On Tuesday the 17th Instant, came on at *Quinn's Town*, the Election of a Member to serve for *Queen Anne's County*, when Mr. *John Tillotson* was chosen by a considerable majority.

This Morning sail'd, the *Speedwell*, Capt. *James Craig*, from this Place, for *London*.

Some few days since, *James Mitchell*, a Labouring Man of this Place, going out of a Flat into *Rappahannock River* in *Virginia*, got intangled in a great Number of Sea-Nerdes, and was drowned.

Custom House *ANNAPOLIS* entered, Ship *Triton*, Thomas [unclear] Sloop *Bradley*, John [unclear]

James Craig, for London.