

An Act for Suspending (during the Queen's Pleasure) the Prosecution of the Priests of the Romish Communion, incurring the Penalties of the Act to prevent the Growth of Popery in this Province, by Exercising their Function in a private Family of the Roman Communion, but in no other Case whatsoever. No. 33.

WHEREAS at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the Town and Port of *Annapolis* the Fifth Day of *September*, in the Third Year of Her Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord God, One thousand seven hundred and four, an Act passed, Intituled, *An Act to prevent the Growth of Popery*; and that afterwards (*Viz.*) at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the Town and Port aforesaid, the Fifth Day of *December*, One thousand seven hundred and four, upon due Consideration of the said Law, the Consequences thereof, as also what the real Intent of the same was, by his Excellency the Governor of this Province, Her Majesty's Honourable Council, and the Delegates and Representatives of the People in Assembly, One other Act passed, Intituled, *An Act for Suspending the Prosecution of any Priests of the Communion of the Church of Rome, incurring the Penalties of the said former Act, by Exercising his Function in a private Family of the Roman Communion, but in no other Case whatsoever, for Eighteen Months, or until Her Majesty's Pleasure therein known*; which said last Act was further Continued for Twelve Months, or Her Majesty's Pleasure known, by an Act to that Purpose made at a Session of Assembly held at the Town and Port of *Annapolis* the Second Day of *April*, *Anno Domini*, One thousand seven hundred and six; and both the said former Acts being taken into Her Majesty's Royal Consideration, out of Her Gracious Tenderneſs to all Her Subjects, behaving themselves peaceably and quietly under Her Majesty's Government, She has been Graciously pleased, by Her Order to his Excellency the Governor of this Province, bearing Date at the Council Board at *Whitehall* the Third Day of *January*, One thousand seven hundred and five, to direct that a new Law, or Clause of a Law, should be Enacted in this Province, whereby the said Act of Assembly, Suspending the Execution of that Part of the said first mentioned Law for Preventing the Growth of Popery (*Viz.*) as to the Prosecution of any Priest of the Communion of the Church of *Rome* incurring the Penalties of the said Act, by Exercising their Function in a private Family of the Roman Communion, but in no other Case whatsoever, may be continued without any other Limitation of Time, than until Her Majesty's further Pleasure be declared and signified therein: In Obedience whereunto be it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of Her Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That not any Popish Bishop, Priest, or Jesuit, shall, by Virtue of the said Act of Assembly to prevent the Growth of Popery within this Province, for or by reason of the Exercising his Function in a private Family of the Roman Communion, be prosecuted or indicted before any of Her Majesty's Justices impowered to hold Plea thereof within this Province, for and until Her Majesty's Royal Will and Pleasure shall be first signified therefore; Any Law, Statute, or Usage, to the contrary notwithstanding.

PROVIDED always, That this Act, nor any thing therein contained, shall be construed or taken in any wise to extend to the Defeating, Rescinding, Abrogating, or Suspending the Force, Vigor, or Effect of the aforesaid Act for Preventing the Growth of Popery, in any other Matter or Thing whatsoever, or for or during any longer Time than what is herein expressed and declared.

Pass'd April 15th, 1707.

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