

An Act for Erecting Ann-Arundel and Oxford Towns, into Ports and Towns.

BE it Enacted by the King and Queen's most Excellent Majesties, by and with the Advice and Consent of this present General Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the Publication hereof, the Land called the *Town Land*, at *Severn*, in *Ann-Arundel* County, where the Town was formerly, and the Land at *Oxford*, in *Talbot* County, where the Town was formerly, shall from henceforth be Towns and Ports, and Places of Trade, where all Ships and Vessels may come to for Entering and Clearing; to which End, the Collector of that District, or his lawful Deputies, shall constantly reside at the said Towns and Ports; and also a Naval Officer or Officers or their Deputies shall also constantly reside there, for giving Dispatch to all Ships and Vessels coming or Trading into them Parts. And that the same Towns and Ports may be capable of being built upon and inhabited by Persons desiring to dwell and inhabit in them,-----

Severn Town
Lands,
And Oxford,
shall be Ports:

Where the
Collector or his
Deputy shall
reside: As also
the Naval Of-
ficer, or Deputy.

The Power
of the Commis-
sioners.

For the Port
of Ann Arundel.

For Oxford.

To meet, and
treat with the
Owners of the
Land: And
purchase 100
Acres.

Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Proclaiming of this Act, all and every the Persons named herein for Commissioners, shall be Commissioners of and for the said two Towns, and each of them. And they and every of them shall and may execute the Powers and Authorities hereby given them, according to the Directions hereafter given and prescribed, as well for the Buying and Purchasing the aforesaid Towns Lands of the now Owners and Possessors of the same, as for the Surveying and Laying-out of the same, and Stating of the several Lots to be laid out in them, to the End, the Length, Breadth and Extent of each Lot in each Town and Port may be known and distinguished, (that is to say,) For the said Town and Port of *Ann-Arundel* in *Ann-Arundel* County aforesaid, Major *Hammond*, Major *Edward Dorsey*, Mr. *John Bennet*, Mr. *John Dorsey*, Mr. *Henry Constable*, Mr. *Andrew Norwood*, Mr. *Philip Howard*, Mr. *James Sanders* and the Honourable *Nicholas Greenberry*, Esq; And for the Town and Port in *Talbot* County, at *Oxford*, aforesaid, Mr. *Edward Mann*, Mr. *John Edmondson*, Mr. *Clement Saile*, Mr. *John Neels*, Mr. *John Hawkins*, Mr. *Thomas Robins*, and Mr. *Thomas Robins, Junior*, the Honourable *George Robotham*, Mr. *Thomas Smithson*, and Mr. *Robert Smith*.

And be it Enacted, That the Commissioners herein nominated for each respective Town, in each County aforesaid, or the major Part of them, are hereby Impowered, some time before the Five and Twentieth Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety Four, to meet together upon the respective Lands and Places for Towns beforementioned, then and there to treat with and agree with the Owners and all Persons interested in the said Lands, and buy and purchase of such Owners and others interested in the said Lands, One Hundred Acres of the said Lands, at the Discretion of the Persons aforesaid, least prejudicial to the Owners: And they that purchase shall cause the same to be surveyed, and after Survey so made, shall cause the same to be marked, staked, and divided into convenient Streets,
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