

May the 25th 1715 Read and Approved by the house of Delegates and signed by order of the Magna Council the Sign of W. Bladen Esq. Council
On the behalf of his most Sacred Majesty King George of Great Brittain: It will thus be Law

Sealed

W. Bladen

And for the Speedy tryall of Criminals and Ascertaining their punishment in the County Courts when produced there and for payment of Fees due from Criminal persons

Whereas many Acts of Assembly have been heretofore made against Thieving and Stealing which at this present are not sufficient to prevent the Committing those Crimes or to punish them when Committed Be it therefore Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governour Council and Assembly of this province and the Authority of the Said that it shall and may be Lawfull to and for the severall Justices of the County Courts of this province to hold plea of Assize and in Lawfull manner determine all Thieving and Stealing of any Goods or Chattels whatsoever not being above the Value of one thousand pounds of Tobacco Robbery Burglary and house breaking - Excepted) And every person or persons Legally Convicted of any such Thieving and Stealing (excepted) by Testimony of ^{one} sufficient Evidences not being the party grieved before any such County Court as aforesaid shall and may Lawfully be punished by paying four fold of the Value of the goods soe thieved or Stolen as aforesaid and the Stolen goods returned to the party or parties grieved thereby and putting in the pillory and whipping some many Stripes as the Court before whom such matter is tryed shall Adjudge not exceeding forty which Court shall always Adjudge the Value of the Goods so thieved and Stolen as aforesaid and if any such person so Convicted have not sufficient goods and Chattels or be a Servant where by he is Incapable to have goods and Chattels to satisfy and pay the said four fold -