

Between the Test and return of Such Vot or Votrs, So as Publick Notice be given of the Election in a County according to the Directions of the said Law, and for a day Notice of the Election in Each City or Burrough.

And Whereas Notwithstanding all the Measures that have been hitherto taken for Preventing the Growth of Popery within this Province it is very Obvious that not only Popish Papists still multiply and Increase in Number but that there are also too great Numbers of others y^t adhere to, and Espouse their Interest in Opposition to the Protestant Establishm^t, and being under just apprehensions from what steps they have already taken, y^t if Papists should continue to be allowed their Vote in Electing of Delegates, they with their adherents & those under their influence will make such a Party at the Elections of many of the Counties within this Province, as well as the City of Annapolis, as to determine the Choice in some of their great favourites and adherents, which if they should accomplish, how much it would tend to the Discouragem^t and Disturbance of his Lordships Protestant Governm^t is not Easy to imagine. It is therefore humbly prayed y^t it may be Enacted

And Be it Enacted by the Authority a^s: by and with the advice and Consent a^s: that all Popish Papists w^o: so ever be and are hereby Declared, incapable of giving their Vote in any Election of a Delegate or Delegates within this Province, either for Counties, Cities or Burroughs unless they first Qualifie themselves for so doing by Taking the severall Oaths Appointed to be taken by an Act of Assembly of this Province Intituled Aⁿ Act for the better Security of the Peace and Safety of his Lordships Governm^t: and the Protestant Interest within this Province, and subscribe the Oath of Abjuration and Declaration therein mentioned.

And further in as much as too many Persons that are either really Papists or Popishly inclined Act in disguise and will not make any Publick Profession of their Principles, for the better and more Effectual Carrying on their wicked and Malicious Designs for the undermining and Subverting our Present Establishment. Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority advice and Consent a^s: that it shall and may be lawfull for the Sheriff or other Judges of Elections, and such Sheriff or other Judges are hereby required as often as any of them shall see Needfull for upon the information of any other person duly Qualified to vote, to tender and administer y^e Oaths and Subscriptions a^s: to any person or persons suspected to be Papists or Popishly inclined and upon their refusall to set aside such Vote or Votes.

Provided always that nothing in this Act be construed to Do bar or hinder