

derable Works, or else such as are wilfully obstinate, to the hinderance of such Persons as would purchase such Lands or Places as should be fit for the carrying on so great Works, and setting them up to the Increase of our Trade and Navigation, the Peopling of this Province, and to the advantage of his Lordship, by the Encouraging the taking up such Remote and Barren Lands as are now entirely useles and uncultivated.

Be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his said Lordship's Governour and the Upper and Lower Houses of this present General Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That if any Person or Persons from and after the publication hereof, shall desire to set up such Forging Mill, and other Conveniencies for the carrying on such Iron Works, upon any Land not before Cultivated, next adjoyning to any Run of Water within this Province, not being the Estate of the Inheritance of such Undertakers, nor Leased to them to the Intent thereon to set such Forging Mill, and other Conveniencies for the Carrying on such Iron Works, they may purchase a Writ out of Chancery, Directed to the Sheriff of the County where such Land lieth, requiring him by the Oath of twelve Men of his County, to Inquire what Damage it would be to his Lordship, or others, to have such Builders or Undertakers Invested with an absolute Estate of Inheritance in one hundred Acres of such Land, proper for the setting up such Forging Mill, and other Conveniencies for the carrying on such Iron Works, as aforesaid; the form of which Writ followeth, viz.

Charles, absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon, Lord Baron of Baltimore, &c To the Sheriff of — County, Greeting, We Command you, That by the Oath of twelve honest and lawful Men of the County, by whom the Truth of the matter may be better known, you diligently enquire if it be to the Damage of Us, or others, if we Grant unto N. N. of N. County, One Hundred Acres of Land lying at — in the County aforesaid, as may be most convenient for the building and setting up a Forge-Mill, and other Conveniencies, as shall be necessary for the carrying on an Iron-Work. And if it be to the damage and prejudice of Us or others, then to what Damage and prejudice of Us, and to what damage and prejudice of others, and of whom, and in what manner, and how, and of what Value, the same Land is now, before any other Improvement of the said One Hundred Acres of Land, and who are the present Possessors of the said One Hundred Acres of Land, and who have the Fee simple thereof, and what Lands and Tenements remain to the present Possessor, over and above the said One Hundred Acres of Land. And if the said Land remaining to the present Possessors, over and above the said One Hundred Acres, will suffice to uphold their Mannor, viz. The sixth part of their Mannor allotted them by the Conditions of Plantations, for the demesne, as before the alienation, so as the County, by the Alienation aforesaid, in default of the Present possession, more than was wont not to be charged and grieved; and the Inquisition thereupon openly and distinctly made to Us in our High-Court of Chancery, under the Seal, and Seals of them by whom it was made, without Delay, send &c.

UPon Return of which Writ, in Case the Person or Persons who by the said Inquest shall be found to be the true Owners and Possessors of the Land, fit to build a Forge-Mill, and other Conveniencies necessary for carrying on an Iron-Work, shall refuse to build such Forge-Mill and other Conveniencies, for such Iron-Work thereon, within six Months from that Date, to be computed and