

And be it likewise Enacted, That the same Oath shall be taken by the Members of the Court of Appeals, as Judges to correct Errors in Judgments, and other Proceedings at Common Law, the Justices of the Provincial and County-courts, and the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of *Annapolis*, for the Time being, as their proper Oath of Office, to be administered, as hath been heretofore used; and that the same be administered to the Members of the Court of Appeals, as Judges to correct Errors in Judgments, and other Proceedings at Common Law; the Justices of the Provincial and County-courts, and the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the City of *Annapolis*, now in being, by Virtue of, and according to the Directions of the several Commissions, Writs of *Dedimus Potestatem*, or the other Authorities that the late Form of their Oath of Office was administered by: And that after the last Day of *March* next, none of the Members of the Court of Appeals, as Judges to correct Errors in Judgments, and other Proceedings at Common Law, nor the Justices of the Provincial or County-courts, nor the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the City of *Annapolis*, be capable of acting in their respective Stations, without having first taken and continuing under the Obligation of the said Oath, as their proper Oath of Office, in Manner aforesaid.

Provided, That if the Judges in the High Court of Appeals, Provincial Courts, and Courts of Assize, take the said Oath at any time before they proceed to the Judicial Determination of any Matters of Law in their respective Courts, the same shall be taken as a full Compliance with the Directions of this Act; any thing herein before contained to the contrary, in any wise notwithstanding.

An ACT for Improving the Staple of TOBACCO.

WHEREAS it is Evident, to this General Assembly, That unless some Provision be made for the Improvement of the Staple of Tobacco, the People of *Maryland*, whose present Dependance is on the Produce of that Commodity, must be inevitably reduc'd, to want common Necessaries, or to fall upon some other Ways and Means, however difficult, to supply themselves:

Be it therefore Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Lordship's Governour, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That every labouring Taxable Person, and Overseer, within this Province, have Liberty to tend Seven Thousand Plants of Tobacco, and no more, (except as is hereafter excepted;) and that all Male or Female labouring Persons, above Twelve, and under Sixteen Years of Age, have Liberty to tend Three Thousand Five Hundred Plants of Tobacco, and no more, upon any Plantation or Plantations, in any one Year, during the Continuance of this Act.

Provided always, That all Male Persons, being Housekeepers and Planters, and not having any Taxable Servant or Slave, and all Widows, and all Females Sole, having Land, and being Housekeepers, and not having more than one Taxable Person, shall have Liberty to tend for themselves Ten Thousand Plants of Tobacco; for every Male or Female labouring Person, between Twelve and Sixteen Years of Age, to them belonging, the Liberty of tending on his or her Plantation, Five Thousand Plants of Tobacco, and no more; and for every white Woman, belonging to such Housekeepers Five Thousand Plants, and no more; and that no such Housekeeper have any