

July 1732

(2)

*An ACT for preventing Bribery and Corruption
in the Elections of Citizens or Delegates to serve in Assembly for the
City of Annapolis.*

FOR preventing Bribery and Corruption in the Elections of Citizens or Delegates to serve in Assembly for the City of *Annapolis*, Be it Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That upon the Election of any Member or Members to serve, for the Inhabitants of *Annapolis*, in Assembly, every Freeholder, or other Person, claiming a Vote, shall, before he is admitted to poll at the same Election, take the following Oath; or being one of the People called Quakers, shall make the solemn Affirmation appointed for Quakers, in case the same shall be demanded by any Candidate, or any Two of the Electors; that is to say,

I A. B. do swear, (or being a Quaker, solemnly affirm,) *That I have not received, or had, by my self, or any Person whatsoever in Trust for me, or for my Use, directly, or indirectly, any Sum or Sums of Money, Office, Place, or Employment, Gift, or Reward; or any Promise or Security for any Money, Office, Employment, Gift, or Reward, for giving my Vote at this Election.*

WHICH Oath, the Mayor, Recorder, or any Alderman present, is hereby impowered and required to administer *Gratis*, upon Pain to forfeit Twenty Pounds Current Money of *Maryland*, to any Person who will sue for the same: To be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, with full Costs of Suit, in the Provincial, or *Anne-Arundel* County Court, wherein no *Essoin*, Protection, or Wager of Law, shall be allowed.

AND be it further Enacted, That if the Mayor, Recorder, or any Alderman, shall refuse to administer the said Oath, if demanded, as aforesaid, the Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman, so refusing, shall forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds Current Money: To be recovered, as aforesaid, by any Person who shall sue for the same. And that every Person who shall poll or vote at any such Election, without having first taken the Oath, or if a Quaker, the solemn Affirmation, if demanded, such Person shall incur the same Penalty, which the Mayor, Recorder, or Alderman, is liable to, for the Offence above-mentioned: To be recovered, as aforesaid.

AND be it further Enacted, That the Mayor, Recorder, if present, and every Alderman present, at every such Election, shall, immediately after the reading the Writ for the Election, take and subscribe the following Oath.

I A. B. do solemnly swear, *That I have not, directly or indirectly, received any Sum or Sums of Money, Office, Place, or Employment, Gratuity, or Reward; or any Bond, Bill, Note, or any Promise, or Gratuity whatsoever, either by my self, or any other Person to my Use, or Benefit, or Advantage, for making any Return at the present Election; And that*