

At a SESSION of ASSEMBLY, begun and held at the City of ANNAPOLIS, on Tuesday the Fifteenth Day of JUNE, in the Second Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable HENRY HARFORD, Esq; absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Province of MARYLAND, and ended the Third Day of JULY, Anno Domini 1773: The following LAWS were enacted:

ROBERT EDEN, Esq; GOVERNOR.

C H A P. I.

An ACT concerning Estates-tail and the Jurisdiction of the County Courts.

WHEREAS common Recoveries are considered as a Mode of Conveyance; by which Tenants in Tail are enabled to convey and dispose of their Lands and Tenements, but the said Mode of Conveyance is attended with an heavy Expence and great Inconvenience, by Reason of a necessary and chargeable Attendance in many Cases on the Provincial Court :

Preamble.  
Persons seized of Estates-tail, may sell and convey them in the same Manner as those seized of Estates in Fee-simple.

II. Be it therefore enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That any Person or Persons, seized of any Estate-tail, in Possession, Reversion, or Remainder, shall have full Power to grant, bargain, sell, and convey, any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, whereof he, she, or they, shall be so seized, by such Manner and Form of Conveyance, or Assurance, as any Person seized of an Estate in Fee-simple may, by the Laws of this Province, grant, bargain, sell, and convey, any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, whereof such Person is seized of an Estate in Fee-simple; and all and every such Grants, Bargains, Sales and Conveyances; of any Person or Persons so seized in Tail; shall be good and available, to all Intents and Purposes, against all and every Person and Persons, whom the Grantor, Bargainor, or Vendor, might or could debar by any Mode of common Recovery, or any Ways or Means whatsoever, any Law or Usage to the Contrary notwithstanding:

III. And, whereas it is often grievously inconvenient to Defendants and Witnesses to attend at the Provincial Court in Annapolis, and in no wise necessary or expedient for the due Administration of Justice in the Cases of such Suits or Actions as are cognizable by the Justices of the County Courts, and as it may give great Relief to Witnesses and Jurymen, as well as to Suitors, to confer on the respective County Courts an original Jurisdiction, exclusive of the Provincial Court, in all Actions, Suits, and Causes, whereof the County Courts have a Jurisdiction concurrent with