

An Act for building a Prison at St. Maries.

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Forasmuch as due Respect to the Governm^t is not given for want of Prisons to restrain Offenders, and persons indebted take noe care for discharging their debts for the same reason Bee it Enacted that there be foure acres of land neerest about the Spring on the East side of St. Maries feild be allotted to build a prison vpon and that there be tenn thousand pounds of tob. rased out of the province this next ensueing crop to be laid out vpon building a prison vpon the aforesaid foure acres of land And in Regard Raymond Staplefort hath undertaken to build thes sayd prison vpon condicōn he may be keeper of the said prison during life Bee it further Enacted that the said Raymond Staplefort have the said tenn thousand pounds of tob. payd vnto him he giving Sufficient Security that the said prison shall be well and sufficiently built at St. Maryes sometye before the 23th of Aprill 1667 and that he provide Irone and all other necessaries for the restraining and safe keeping offenders and that then he have a patent vnder the great Seale of this Province to be Keeper of the said Prison for and during the terme of his Naturall Life. And for the further Encouragm^t of him the said Staplefort to build the Prison aforesaid soe necessary for the Adm^{con} of Justice be it further Enacted that all Criminalls accused of any offence whatsoever in any part of this Province the Punishm^t of which cann any way touch the person accused in his life or member & not Bayleable by the Law of England shall be by the Justice or Justices of peace before whom he is accused imediately sent by Mittimus to the Prison at S^t Maries there to be kept in safe custody till he shall thence be delivered by due Order of Law And for the better Recovering of debts & deterring of Riotous psons who contract debts out of a confidence of an Impunity of their persons Bee itt also Enacted that every person which shall be taken in Execucōn from and after the 23th of Aprill 1667 for any debt or damage recovered in any Court of this province and shall not within eight days after his soe being taken in Execucōn Satisfye the party or partys at whose Suite he was taken in Execucōn shall by the Respective Sherriffes of the Severall Countys be brought down to the Prison at S^t Maries & delivered to the Keeper of the said prison for the time being who from that time of his Delivery shall have all such Fees allowed him for Imprisonm^t of Such Offenders respectively as the Sherriffs of the Severall Countyes hithertoe have had and Enjoyed or shall hereafter be lymitted and appoynted to such Sherriffs Provided alwaies that if any other County will be att the charge of a prison within their owne County for the Effectuall restraint of debtors the prisoners of such Countys for any thing not con-