

Sherriffes in their Respective offices hath prompted and imboldned them to abuse Terrify and trample vpon the poore Inhabitants of this Province and to Exact and Extort from them Excessive and Exorbitant fees Contrary to Act of Assembly This present Generall Assembly being very desireous that all such absurdities and abuses may fully and Effectually be prevented and avoyded for the future And that noe Sherriffe nor vndersherriffe may vppon presumption of being long Continued in his place Attempt to threaten or Terrify any of the Inhabitants of this Province by Colour of his office or by his or their Insolent and haughty behaiour Terrify such wronged and abused Inhabitant from making their Iust Complaints known for feare of further mischief or revenge from such Sherriffe or vndersherriffe in any succeeding or future yeare. Doe pray that itt may be Enacted and bee itt Enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary of this Province by and with the advice and Consent of the upper and lower houses of this present Generall Assembly That from and after the first day of may which shall be in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred seventy Nyne Noe Sherriffe or vndersherriffe of any County within this Province shall Continue and Remaine in his or their office or offices of Sherriffe or vndersherriffe of such County for any longer or greater time then one whole yeare from the first time of his Entrance into such office or offices Any Law or vsage to the Contrary in any wise notwithstanding vnless that such sherriffe or sherriffes soe to be Comissionated and Continued for a longer time then one yeare for every yeare after the said first yeare shall procure from their respective County Courts a Certificate of his or their Iust Execucōn of their offices the preceeding yeare And that the Justices of the said County Courts knowe noe Iust occasion for his or their Removeall

And Be itt further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid by and with the advice and Consent aforesaid That if any Sherriffe or Vndersherriffe shall for the future accept of a Comission for the said office of sherriffe or Subsherriffe Contrary to the forme Intent and true meaning of this Act and without such Certificate from the County Court as aforesaid first had and Then every such Sherriffe shall forfeit and pay To the Lord Proprietary the sume of two hundred pounds starling And every such Sherriffe shall forfeit and pay to the Lord Proprietary the sume of one hundred Sterling the one halfe of both the said forfeitures of the said Sherriffe to be the one halfe to the Informer or Informers or him or them that will Informe or sue for the same to be Recovered in any Court of this Province by bill plaint or Informacōn wherein noe Essoyne proteccōn or wager of Law to be allowed Pro-

Liber W. H.
& L.