

Liber W. H.
& L.An Act for keeping a Register of Birthes Mariages
and Burialls in each Respective County

Bee itt Enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary by & with the advice and Consent of this present Generall Assembly and the Authority of the same that the names Surnames and places of abode of all manner of persons within this Province Except Negroes Indians & Molottos that shall from and after the Publicacōn of this Act be borne married or buried within this Province together with the Respective dates of the day moneth and yeare of our Lord of their said Birth Mariage and Buryall shall be Exhibitted to the Clarke of each Respective County Court by the father of any such Child that shall be borne, the person married or next of kinn Executor Administrator Master or mistriss to him or them that shall be buried as aforesaid within two moneths after such birth marriage or buriall aforesaid vnder the penalty of twenty pounds of Tobacco the one halfe to the Clarke of each respective County Court the other halfe to the poore of the said County wherein shall happen to be any such default as aforesaid

p. 155 And bee itt further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid That every Clarke of each Respective County Court within this Province shall att his own Costes and Charges within one moneth after the Publicacōn hereof provide a good and dureable booke wherein he shall Register in a faire legible hand the names Surnames places of abode together with the Respective dates of the day moneth and yeare of our Lord of the births marriage or burialls soe Exhibitted as aforesaid for which he shall haue as his fee the sume of five pounds of Tobacco to be Levved by way of Execution on the goods or Chattles of the person soe Requireing The Registering the same as aforesaid that shall neglect or refuse to pay the same And if any Clerke of any County Court within this Province shall neglect or refuse to provide one Dureable booke as aforesaid and therein to Register the names Surnames and places of abode of such persons as shall be borne married or buried within their Respective County soe Exhibitted as aforesaid shall forfeit and pay for every offence the sume of two thousand pounds of Tobacco the one halfe to the Lord Proprietary the other halfe to the Informer to be Recovered in any Court of Record within this Province by bill plaint or informacōn.

Bee itt Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the Comissioners of each Respective County att their severall sessions shall make Speciall Search and inquiry into the premisses that the Respective Clerkes doe their duty as aforesaid—

Provided that this Act nor any thing therein Conteyned shall any way Countenance the discontinuance of any legall Register of Birthes mariages or Burialls hitherto kept in any