

Lib. L. L.
No 1.An Act for the Constables taking a List
of Taxables.

Whereas through the Idleness and carelessness of some constables in this Province many false Lists of the Taxable Persons in this Province are returned and for that Severall Constables in this Province do commonly proceed to take the severall Lists of Taxables upon hearsay without going to the
p. 203 several and respective houses in their hundred to enquire of the Mast^{rs} of the respective families the number of Taxables in every family, By which neglect the Inhabitants of this Province are often times very much abused and wronged, Be it therefore Enacted by the King and Queens most Excellent Majesties, by and with the advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly and by the Authority of the same That from and after the Publication hereof every Constable within this Province shall between the twentieth day of June and the last day of July repaire in person to every respective house or habitation within this hundred, and there enquire of the Master Mistresses Dames or other cheif person in the family, what number of Taxable persons they and every of them have wthin their respective families, And after Enquiry made a true and fair list shall return of all and every Taxable person within his hundred as aforesaid under his hand unto the Sherriff of the County, and another fair list thereof und^r his hand, such Constable shall present at the next County Court there to be set up, and if in case any Master Mistress dame or other Cheif person of a Family shall refuse or deny to give an Accompt of the Taxable persons of their familys or upon their Accompt shall conceal any Taxable person or persons in his or their
p. 204 family shall for every such Offence not given a true Acco^t of them to the Constables when required, And every person Taxable so by him concealed forfeit & pay one thousand pounds of Tobacco for such Person or persons so by him or them concealed, And every Constable neglecting his Office herein shall forfeit & pay the sum of five hundred pounds of Tobacco for every offence, such forfeitures and fines to be levied by the Justices of the respective County Courts for the use of the Poor of the Parish wherein such Constables and Inhabitants do dwell and reside and by them to be disposed of for the use aforesaid as the said Justices shall think fitt And to the end that no person for the future may be Ignorant what Persons are Taxables and what not Be it Enacted by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid and the Authority of the same, That all Male Children born within this Province and Resident in it shall be taken and Accompted Taxables at the Age of sixteen years and upwards, and all male Children Ser-