

Lib. L. L. An Act for the Punishment of Privateers & Pyrates

Whereas it highly Tends to the Honour of his Sacred Ma^{ty} our Sovereigne Lord William the third King of Great Brittain, France and Ireland and most Consistent with the Duty of his Matys Loyall Subjects That Such Articles as are Concluded on in all Treatys of Peace should in a Strict manner be inviolably preserved and kept and Notwithstanding his Matys late Treaty of Peace made with his Allyes and likewise his Royall Proclamation to that Effect sent through all his Matys Dominions, Yet diverse of his Matys ill minded & disobedient

p. 351 Subjects of other of his Matys Dominions as well by themselves as in Company with the Subjects of other Princes and in their Service have Committed diverse Robberies, Murthers & Pyracies to the great Scandall and reproach of the English Nation and Contrary to their Duty faith and Allegiance for the preventing of the said Evills and Punishing of all Such offenders we pray it may be Enacted And Be it Enacted by his most Excellent Maty by and with the Advice and Consent of this present Generall Assembly and the Authority of the Same That from and after the publication hereof It shall be ffelony for any person which now doth or within five Years last Past heretofore hath or hereafter shall Inhabitt or belong to this Province that shall Comitt any Act of Hostility by Comission from or in the Service of any forreigne Prince State or Potentate or any Employed by or under any of them against any other forreigne Prince State or Potentate in Amity with his Maty and that all and every Such Offender or Offenders Contrary to the true Intent of this Act being thereof Lawfully Convicted in his Ma^{ty}s Provinciall Court of this Province to which Court Authority is hereby Given to hear and Determine the Same as in other Cases of felony shall Suffer pains of Death without benefitt of Clergy Provided Nevertheless this Act nor any thing therein Contained shall Extend to any person or psons which have been in the Service and Employment of any forreigne Prince State or Potentate whatsoever that hath returned to to this Province and left and deserted such Service and Employment According to his Matys Proclamation before the Tenth day of May Last Past rendering him or themselves to the Governor or Comānder in Chief for the time being and give him such Security as he shall Appoint for their future Good behaviour and also that they shall not Depart this Province without the Governors Pass under the hand & Seale of the Said Governor or Comānder in Chief for the time being And for the Better and more Speedy Execution of Justice upon

p. 352 such who haveing Committed Treason Pyracys ffelonys and other offences upon the Sea that Shall be Apprehended in this