

Maryland October 3<sup>d</sup> 1704Lib. L. L.  
No. 64.On the Behalf of her Ma<sup>ty</sup> &c. I will this be a Law.

Jo : Seymour

## An Act for Publication of Marriages.

Be it Enacted by the Queens most excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and Consent of her Majestys Governour Councill and Assembly of this Province And the Authority of the same that all persons who desire Marriage shall apply themselves either to a Minister Pastor or Magistrate for the Contracting thereof.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid that all persons within this Province intending Marriage shall make publication thereof either at the Church Chappell County Court or Meeting house next where they dwell and that at such time when such Church Chappell or Meeting house shall be full and thereby capable to take Cognizance thereof And that it shall and may be lawfull upon Certificate had from the Minister pastor or County Court where such publication shall have been made three weeks after the said publication for either Minister Pastor or Magistrate (where no Minister can be had) to Joyn in Marriage such persons aforesaid and if any person shall presume to contract marriage without such Publication made and Certificate thereof had as aforesaid or without particular Lycense from the Governo<sup>r</sup> for the time being do privately within the Limitts of this Province contract Marriage every person so Contracted or marryed shall be lyable to a ffine of one thousand pounds of Tob<sup>o</sup> And every such Minister Pastor or Magistrate Joyning in Marriage any persons without such Publication or lycense or any ways infringing this Act shall be lyable to a ffine of ffive thousand pounds of Tobacco the one half of the said ffines to our Sovereign Lady the Queen her heires and Successors for the Support of the Government of this Province And the other half to the Informer to be recovered by bill plaint accon of Debt or Information in any Court of Record wherein no Essoyn protection or wager of Law to be allowed.

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And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid That all Ministers Pastors and Magistrates who according to the law of this Province do usually Joyne people in Marryage shall Joyn them in Manner & forme as is sett down and expressd in the Liturgy of the Church of England Which being finishd the Minister Pastor or Magistrate shall say I being hereunto by law Authorized do pronounce you lawfull man and wife.