

that both the persons desirous to purchase Land and to Settle C. P.
 and Inhabitt on the same and also the Surveyors appointed by
 the right Hon^{ble} the Lord Prop^{ty} to survey and Levy out
 such Lands to the said persons were deterred from makeing
 soe strict a Scrutiny into the true scituation of the Sev^l Rivers
 Creeks and branches of this bay soe as to Prevent the Inter-
 ference of the bounds Limited and Appointed by the said
 Suveyors for Each Tract and from Settleing of the Courses
 or measureing the true distances of Lines directed to run to
 the Sev^l Trees or other bounds then prescribed to Limitt and
 bound the said Sev^l Tracts of Land and also the Surveyors p. 62
 themselves soe Appointed were too Often both very Ignorant
 and Negligent in performing their Duty therein and alsoe for
 as much as the bounded trees by them formerly bounded for
 Very many of the said fformer Surveys are dead and so far
 Lost and forgotten that no remaines or Memory are Left of
 the same and the Other boundaries Either of the bays Rivers
 Creeks or branches as alsoe of Courses and Distances soe
 darkly and Uuskillfully Express that many Great Controversies
 and suits have been and are dayly moved thereupon And no
 Certaine Method as yett being prescribed for the Speedy
 Determination thereof but a Course att Comon Law and
 Tryalls by Jurys in the Provinciall Court which Juries having
 never had Any View of the Lands in debate soe as to be
 made Sensible of the true Scituation of them (whereby the
 true Intent and Meaning of the dark and Unskillfull Express-
 ions of the af^d Surveyors are the better to be Understood)
 Cannot possibly give a Just Verdict thereupon which Occasions
 most Comon and frequent appeales to the Superior Courts
 and Vast Additionall Charges thereby Accrueing Insupporta-
 ble to the Inhabitants of this province Especially the poorer p. 63
 Sort who Are thereby frequently Ruined or Very much Impov-
 erished and many times forced to relinquish and give up their
 Just right to their more potent Litigious Adversaries rather
 then Suffer the Loss of time fatigue and Expencc of a Long
 Journey and longer and more tedious Attendance and foras-
 much as the Multitude of Cases Varying in their Severall
 Circumstances will not Admitt of any Gen^l Rules to be pre-
 scribed whereby the Court and Jury may Adjudge of and
 Determine the Matter in Controversy Therefore this p^sent
 Gen^l Assembly doe Humbly pray that itt may be Enacted,

And be itt Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty
 by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majestys Gov-
 ernour Councill and Assembly of this Province and the
 Authority of the same that five persons in Each respective
 County of this province (who are the best skilled in the Art
 of Surveying and best Acquainted with the Nature and