

be and should suffer such penalties As by the said Law was thereafter appointed but Forasmuch As the said Act has not its desired Effect for Want of Ascertainig what Women shall be Accounted Lewd. Liber LL, 4  
Acts

Be it therefore Enacted by the Queens most Excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and Consent of her Maj<sup>ty</sup>s President Councill and Assembly of this Province and the Authority of the same That It shall and may be lawfull for the Minister Vestry & Churchwardens of any parish where there is a Minister and for the Vestry and Churchwardens where there is noe Minister before any Admonicōn by them or any them given in pursuance of the direccōns of the afore mencōned Act to give notice or Cause Notice to be given to any person or persons by them or the Major part of them Suspected of Lewdness or Incontinency & being Resideing within their respective parishes to appeare before them or the Major part of them At such Time & place As they or the Major part of them shall appoint, And on the Appearance of such person or persons to Acquaint them of the suspicōn that is had of them and to heare what reasonable Excuse such persons shall offer why they ought not to be proceeded against according to Law As Fornicators or Adulterers As the Case shall happen, And in Case the person or persons haveing such Notice given them shall not appeare according to such Notice on Affidavit of such Notice given or appearing doe not Excuse or Acquitt themselves of the Grounds of such Suspicion in such Manner As such Minister Vestry and Churchwardens As afores<sup>d</sup> shall approve. That then it shall and may be lawfull for such Minister Vestry & Churchwardens or the Major part of them As afores<sup>d</sup>, And they are hereby required to Admonish such person or persons according to the direccōns of the afore mencōned Act which Admonicōn together with proof of the Cohabitacōn of the parties soe Admonisht or they frequenting the Company of each other Contrary to and after such Admonicōn given shall be sufficient Evidence in any Court of this Province to Convict the ꝑsons soe Cohabiteing or frequenting each others Company after such Admonicōn given As aforesaid of Fornicacōn or Adultery As the Case shall happen and Subject them to the penalties Exprest in the afore mencōned Act for punishing the Offences of Adultery & Fornicacōn Any Law Statute or Custome to the Contrary notwithstanding.

And Forasmuch As Severall Lewd Women within this Province to Colour their Ill practices And to avoid being Seperated from those That Entertain them doe frequently Enter into feigned Articles Coven<sup>ts</sup> or Indentures to serve such ꝑsons for a Terme who Claime them As their property for the Terme by them Agreed or ꝑ<sup>r</sup> tended to be Agreed on when really such Articles Coven<sup>ts</sup> or Indentures have noe other Consideracōn but are purely devised by them to Elude the Law and Continue their wicked & Lewd Conversacōn. p. 41

Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority Advice & Consent af<sup>d</sup> That it shall & may be lawfull for the Justices of the respective