

An Act for Secureing the Parochiall Librarys of this Province.

Be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly and the authority of the same, That the Liberys appointed for the severall and respective Parishes within this Province shall be and remaine in the hands & possession of the Minister of the Parish, if any Minister be presented and appointed or induced to the said Parish dureing his said residence in the parish aforesaid, who is and shall be obliged to keep and preserve the said Librarys from Waste or Imbezlement and be accomptable for the same to the Governour and Councill and Vestry, as often as required and to that purpose the said Ministers shall pass two receipts for the said Books inserting what they are and the Title page of the same, one receipt to goe to the Governour & Councill, one to the Vestry of the parish to be recorded in their Records, And the said Vestrys are hereby obliged to visitt the said Library twice in the year & Inspect the same, and in case of any damage or Imbezlement thereof, to require and cause Satisfaction for the same, to be made under the penalty of one Thousand pounds of Tobbacco, to each Vestry neglecting therein to the use of the parish, wherein such neglect shall be made, and in case any Minister haveing the charge of such Library, shall be removed from his charge, he shall deliver the said Library to the Vestry of the parish, and make satisfaction or reparation of any damage or Waste suffred before his departure out of the said Parish, Except by fire, or such like unavoidable accidents, or in case of the death of any such Minister, haveing the charge of such Library the vestry of such Parish shall Immediately take the said Library into their Custody and Keeping and pass their receipts for the same as above directed and shall be in all points answerable for the same, Except by fire or such like Accidents as aforesaid.

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ch. 20

An Act for Speedy Justice for small Debts.

For asmuch as this present Generall Assembly have taken into their serious consideracōn the great damage and Inconveniency accruing to the good people of this Province for the recovery of small debts, by a due course of Law in the severall and respective County Courts thereof, it often happening that such Creditors rather choose to loose their just rights and creditts then be put to the trouble to sue for the same, and for that it doth allso appear to be noe less a greivance and burthen to the Debtors of such Creditors persons for the most part Indigent and poore, who being sued frequently, pay three times more cost then the originall debt doth amount unto, for the redress of boath parties for the future, the Immediate & speedy recovery of Just rights and prevention of the like greivences for the time to come it is therefore humbly prayed that it may be Enacted and Be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly and the

Acts of  
Sept. 1696,  
ch. 21