

No. 31 An Additional Supplementary Act to the Act entitled an Act for the
 Liber R. G. Establishment of religious Worship in this Province according
 1771 to the Church of England and for the Maintenance of Ministers.

[Ministers to take the Oaths, &c., within Four Months after Induction.] Be it enacted by the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary by & with the Advice & Consent of his Lordship's Governor & the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly & the Authority of the same, That every Minister who shall be presented inducted or appointed to any Church Living or Benefice within this Province, shall within four Months thereafter take the several Oaths appointed by Law to be taken to the Government, subscribe the Oath of Abjuration and repeat & subscribe the Test in the Provincial Court or in the County Court of the County in which his Living or Benefice shall be & then also in the same Court take the following Oath to wit: "I A B do swear that I have made no Simoniack Contract, Payment or Promise directly or indirectly by myself or by any other to my Knowledge or with my Consent to any Person or Persons whatsoever for or concerning the procuring or obtaining the Benefice or Living of

Parish nor will at any Time hereafter perform or satisfy any Such Kind of Payment Contract or Promise made by any other without my Knowledge or Consent. So help me God through Jesus Christ.

[Ministers neglecting to take the Oaths, or concerned in any simoniack Contract, rendered incapable of holding a Benefice.] And be it further enacted, That in Case any Minister shall directly or indirectly give any Sum of Money, Reward, Gift, Profit, or Benefit or shall directly or indirectly make or give any Agreement, Promise, Grant, Bond or other Assurance for the paying or giving any Sum of Money Reward Gift Profit or Benefit for procuring his Presentation Induction or Appointment to his Benefice or shall willfully omit or neglect to take all & every the Oaths aforesaid and in the Manner aforesaid or in Case any Minister shall in any Manner be concerned in any Simoniack Contract such Minister shall thereupon & from thence forth be adjudged a disabled Person in Law to have or hold the same or any other Benefice or Church Living within this Province. And if any Minister shall be presented, inducted or appointed to any Benefice or Church Living in this Province by or through the Means of any Simoniack Contract or Agreement to which he shall not be privy such Minister shall thereupon & from thenceforth be adjudged a disabled Person in Law to have or hold the same Benefice or Church Living.

[Proviso.] Provided always that no Lease really bona fide and for good & valuable Consideration made by any Person simoniackally promoted or concerned in any Simoniack Contract to any Tenant or Person not being privy to or having Notice of such Simony shall be impeached or avoided for or by Reason of such Simony.

[Penalty in case any] And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid That in Case any Minister presented inducted or appointed or that shall be