

V. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Writing Indented, to be acknowledged and enrolled as aforesaid, shall have relation, as to the Passing and Conveying of the Premises, and the Estate and Estates thereby passed, or intended to be passed and conveyed, by and from the Day of the Enrolment of the same, and not from the Day of the Date thereof: And shall, at all Times be construed and taken more favourably and beneficially for the Benefit and Advantage of the Grantee or Grantees, and more strongly for the Barring of the Grantor or Grantors therein to be named, and according to such Intents as by the Words thereof, shall appear to have been the true Intent of the Parties thereunto, although the same be not so firmly drawn as is used in England, where the Advice of Council learned in the Law may easily be had.

C H A B. XLII.

To take Effect from the Day of Enrolment.

VI. Provided always, That if any *Femme Covert* be named as a Party Grantor in any such Writing Indented, the same shall not be of Force to debar her or her Heirs, except upon her Acknowledgment of the same. And the Person or Persons taking such Acknowledgment, shall examine her privately, out of the Hearing of her Husband, whether she do make her Acknowledgment of the same, willingly and freely, and without being induced thereto by Fear, or Threats of ill Usage by her Husband, or Fear of his Displeasure? And the Person or Persons so examining her, shall, in a Note or Certificate of the said Caption of the said Acknowledgment, certify her Examination and Acknowledgment thereupon: And that such Certificate be likewise enrolled upon Record; in which Case only such *Femme Covert* shall be barred, and not otherwise; any Thing herein before contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Femme Covert* how to be examined.

Examined and Compared with the Original Act, REVERDY GHISELIN, THOMAS BACON.

C H A P. XLIII.

An Act relating to Servants and Slaves. Lib. LL. N° 2. fol. 316. REP.

Passed 22d of July 1699.

A new Act made 1704, ch. 23. C H A P. XLIV.

An Act for Speedy Trial of Criminals, and ascertaining their Punishment in the County Courts when tried there. Lib. LL. N° 2. fol. 328. REP. 1700, ch. 2.

Ditto.

C H A P. XLV.

An Act imposing a Fine upon Edward Dorsey, convicting him of a Debt of Three Hundred and Thirty-three Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence to the King; and imposing a Fine on the Sheriffs of Cæcil and Talbot Counties. Lib. LL. N° 2. fol. 332.

Ditto.

Viz. The Fine imposed on Mr. Dorsey for not fulfilling his Agreement to build the Church at Annapolis, &c.

C H A P. XLVI.

An Act ascertaining the Laws of this Province. Lib. LL. N° 2. fol. 336. Ditto.

DISSENT.

N. B. By this Law, "The several Laws heretofore made which are mentioned in the Catalogue hereunto annexed, (viz. 1692, ch. 1, 2, 4, 8, 13, 14, 16, 19, 24, 35, 37, 41, 43, 50, 52, 56, 57, 58, 62, 63, 64, 65, 71, 74, 75, 76, and 84. Anno 1694, ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 34, and 35. Anno 1695, ch. 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 21, 22, and 25. Anno 1696, ch. 6, 8, 10, 17, 18, and 24. Anno 1697, ch. 1, 4, 5, 6, and 9. Anno 1698, ch. 2, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, and 23,) together with the several Laws made this Session, and no other, shall be the Body of Laws of this Province, &c. And that all Laws, heretofore made, for and in this Province, of what Kind soever, (except Laws for private Purposes, and the Laws mentioned in the said Catalogue, and the Laws made and assented to this Session) are annulled, repealed and made void, &c." His Majesty's Dissent to this Law is dated at the Court of Kensington, 30th November 1699.

C H A P. XLVII.

An Act for the ordering and regulating the Militia of this Province, for the better Defence and Security thereof. Lib. LL. N° 2. fol. 342. EXP.

Ditto.

For 3 Years, &c. Revived 1704, ch. 8. A new Law made 1704, ch. 26.

C H A P. XLVIII.

An Act for the Punishment of Privateers and Pirates. Lib. LL. N° 2. fol. 350. REP.

Ditto.