

C H A P. XVI. from that Day to be computed and reckoned, and give Security the same Building to prosecute and finish within Two Years after the said Beginning, or laying the Foundation as aforesaid, for the public Good of the Province, it shall and may be lawful for her said Majesty, her Heirs, or Successors, or for their Chief Governor here, for the Time being, from Time to Time, to grant any such Twenty Acres of Land fit to build a Water-Mill upon as aforesaid, together with free Egress and Regress to the said Water-Mill, either by Land through any Man's Land next adjoining, or else by Water; together with Liberty to fall any Timber for building the said Water-Mill, other than Board-Timber fit to split or cleave into Clap-boards, for any Time or Term, not exceeding Eighty Years then next to come, under the yearly Rent of the Land then, by the Oath of Twelve Men, by virtue of the Writ aforesaid, returned to be paid to the Owner of the said Land so found and returned as aforesaid. Which said Grant from her said Majesty, her Heirs and Successors, or from the Governor here, for the Time being as aforesaid, shall be good and available in Law to the Grantee as aforesaid, for any Term of Years, not exceeding Eighty Years as aforesaid, against all Persons whatsoever; any Law, Custom, or Usage, heretofore had, made, or used within this Province, to the contrary notwithstanding.

in one Year, &c. A Grant may be made thereof;

not to exceed 80 Years, under the yearly Rent returned by the Jury.

The Grantee to give Security for building the Mill.

III. **Provided always,** That before any Person or Persons whatsoever, shall have such Grant to build a Water-Mill as aforesaid, he, or they, shall enter into Bond to her said Majesty, with Two sufficient Sureties, in the Sum of Fifty Thousand Pounds of Tobacco, with Condition to begin to build the said Water-Mill within One Year then next to come, and the Building to prosecute and finish within Two Years after such Beginning.

The like Writs and Grants thereon, may be had by Persons who had erected Mills before this Act.

IV. **And** for the great Advantage that is already found to the Province in general by the Mills already built, some of which do stand upon Lands whereof the Title is doubtful, for Want of due Form of the Conveyance, or of the Last Wills and Testaments by which the Lands have been conveyed or devised to the Builders of such Mills; **Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid,** That all and every such Person or Persons as aforesaid, who have built Mills, shall or may have such Writ or Writs as aforesaid, to inquire of the true yearly Value of the Land where such Mill doth stand, and of Ten Acres of Land on each Side of the said Run as aforesaid; and upon Return of such Writ as aforesaid, shall have a Grant from her Majesty's Chief Governor here as aforesaid, for any Term, not exceeding Eighty Years, and yearly Rent return as aforesaid, to be paid to the right Owner of the said Land as aforesaid, any Law, or Usage, to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Two Years to be allowed such Grantees for new erecting, &c. any Water-Mill, which shall be casually broke, &c. Or in Default thereof, the Owner of the Land may re-enter.

V. **And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid,** That from and after the Publication hereof, no Person or Persons whatsoever, having, or that shall hereafter have obtained any Grant for any Lands, whereof such Person or Persons are not the real Owners or Possessors thereof, and whereupon he, she, or they, have already built, or shall hereafter build a Water-Mill, as this Law hath before directed, shall have any Right, Title or Claim, to any Land granted for any Time or Term whatsoever, after such Mill by him or them already built as aforesaid, or that shall hereafter be built, shall be casually broke, or gone to Decay as aforesaid, other than Two Years for the new erecting, building, finishing and repairing of such Mill as aforesaid, but that in all and every case where any Person or Persons that have already built, or that shall hereafter build any Water-Mill, which are, or that hereafter shall be broke, or gone to Decay as aforesaid, and shall not within Two Years after the Publication hereof, or within Two Years after such Mill shall become broke, or gone to Decay as aforesaid, cause the same to be new builded, repaired and finished as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for the real Owner or Owners of such Land, to such Person or Persons so granted as aforesaid, to re-enter upon the same; and in case such Person or Persons shall refuse or deny to give the Owner or Owners of such Land as aforesaid, peaceable and quiet