

C H A P. VI.

An Act for the Laying out of Land, and erecting a Town at the Head of Port-Tobacco Creek, in Charles County. Lib. L. N^o 5. fol. 262. Passed 8th August 1729.

N. B. By this Act, (1.) Certain Commissioners are appointed and impowered to purchase (by Agreement, or Valuation of a Jury) Sixty Acres of Land at the Place aforesaid, and to cause the same to be surveyed and laid out in the most convenient Manner, so as to adjoin to, and encompass, the Land belonging to Port-Tobacco Church and the Court-house. (2.) One Acre to be laid out for a Market-Place, and the remaining 59 Acres to be divided into 100 Lots, allowing convenient Streets, &c. of which Lots the Owner of the Land to have his Choice of Two, provided he make his Choice in 15 Days after laying out the Town: And the remaining Lots may be taken up by any Inhabitants of the County; no Person to take up more than one Lot within the first Four Months; and in case the said Inhabitants shall not take up the Lots within the said Time, then any other Persons may take up the same. (3.) The Damage or Recompence assessed by the Jury, or the Sum agreed for by the Commissioners, shall be paid to the Owner of the Land, by Persons taking up Lots, proportionably to their Lots. (4.) Every Person taking up any Lot shall build thereon, within 18 Months from the Time of taking up, a House to cover 400 square Feet, exclusive of Sheds. (5.) All the Houses to be built on the Edge of some Street, Lane, or Alley, and to front the same. (6.) The Commissioners to return their Proceedings to the County Clerk (within 10 Days after laying out the Town) who shall enter the same in the Land Records, and file the original Report. (7.) Persons wanting Lots shall apply to the said Clerk, who shall enter their Names in the Records, with the Day of the Month, &c. and Number of the Lot or Lots so taken up: And the Person causing such Entry to be made, and building on such Lot, according to this Act, shall be vested with a good, sure, and indefeazable Estate of Inheritance, in Fee-simple, of, in, and to the Lot or Lots so entered and built upon. (8.) Persons taking up Lots, and not building thereon according to this Act, shall entirely lose all Right, Title, Estate, &c. therein: And any Person whatever, may take up such Lots, making Entry as before directed, and paying the Sum originally assessed upon such Lots to the Commissioners, &c. for the Public Use and Benefit of the Town. And such second Taker-up, by virtue of such Entry and Payment, and building on such Lot (according to the Directions of this Act) within 18 Months from the Date of such second Entry, shall be vested with the same Estate as is by this Act settled on the first Taker-up. (9.) In case any of the Lots remain untaken up at the End of Seven Years from laying out the Town; then the first Owner of the Land shall be possessed and interested in the said Lots, as in his first and former Estate. (10.) The Town to be called *Charles-Town*, and by no other Name or Distinction. (11.) This Act not to prejudice the Rights of any Persons, who have complied with the Requisites of the Act whereby Part of the said Land was actually surveyed and laid out into Lots, and then called *Chandler-Town*, of their Title to or Inheritance of the said Lots. (12.) Saving to the Crown, the Lord Proprietor, &c. their several and respective Rights.

C H A P. VII.

An ACT impowering and directing the Justices of the several Counties within this Province, to levy any Quantity of Tobacco, not exceeding Ten Pounds per Poll, on the Taxable Persons of any Parish, in each of their respective Counties, on Application to them made by the Vestry and Church-wardens of any Parish. Lib. L. N^o 5. fol. 266. Ditto.

WHEREAS it is represented and made appear to this present General Assembly, that some of the Justices of the Peace within this Province, have refused to assess Tobacco on the Inhabitants of some Parishes, although Application have been made to them by the Vestry and Church-wardens, to that End; Preamble.

II. Be it therefore Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful for, and the several Justices of the several County Courts within this Province, are hereby required and directed, on Application to them made, by the Vestry-men and Church-wardens of any Parish, yearly to assess the Parishioners of such Parish, any Quantity of Tobacco, not exceeding Ten per Poll, on the Taxable Inhabitants thereof; be it for the Enlargement or Repairs of any Church heretofore, or hereafter to be enlarged, or for any other Charge that shall hereafter be judged by the Vestry and Church-wardens to be necessary for the Use of the same Parish: For collecting whereof, the Sheriffs shall be allowed Five per Cent, without any Deduction. County Courts, on Application of the Vestry, shall yearly assess the Parishioners, not exceeding 10 per Poll. Sheriff's Salary 5 per Cent.