

C H A P. XXIII.

An ACT for Laying out and Erecting a Town at a Place called *Long-Point* on the West side of *North-East* River, in *Cæcil* County. *Lib. B.L.C. fol. 273.*

Passed 29<sup>th</sup> October 1742.

Supplementary Acts 1744, ch. 22; and 1750, ch. 12. See also 1753, ch. 28.

**W**HEREAS the Encouragement of Trade and Navigation is the surest Means of promoting the Happiness, and encreasing the Riches of every Country, and that such Trade is with the greatest Ease and Advantage carried on, when the same is drawn into and fixed in one or more convenient Places; whereby it appears, that erecting Towns, and granting proper Immunities and Privileges for the Encouragement of People to inhabit therein, must greatly contribute to so desirable an End; and there being as yet no such Place settled at, or near, the Head of *Chejapeak* Bay, although from the great Extent of the Country round, and the want of Navigable Water above it, the same seems altogether necessary; It is therefore humbly prayed that it may be Enacted;

Preamble.

II. And be it 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 Colonel Thomas Colvill, Captain Nicholas Hyland, Mr. Benjamin Pearce, Mr. William Alexander, Mr. Henry Baker, Mr. Zebulon Hollingsworth, and Mr. John Read, be, and are hereby impowered, authorized and appointed, Commissioners to put this Act in Execution, according to the Directions hereafter mentioned, *That is to say*, That the aforesaid Commissioners, or the major Part of them, shall, at some convenient Time, by them to be appointed and agreed upon, before the Twentieth Day of *May* next ensuing the End of this present Session of Assembly, meet upon a Parcel of Land, commonly known by the Name of *Long-Point*, lying in *Cæcil* County, on the West side of *North-East* River, and shall then, or at any other Time or Times, to which they shall or may adjourn, with the Assistance of the Deputy-Surveyor of the said County, survey and lay out for a Town, Two Hundred Acres of the Parcel of Land aforesaid, which shall to them, or the major Part of them, appear to be most fit and convenient for that Purpose, into Two Hundred convenient Lots, with proper Streets, Lanes, and Alleys; as also Three Hundred Acres of Land for a Common to the said Town, lying thereto contiguous, in such Manner as to them, or the major Part of them, shall seem proper, and the same Lots shall stake out, mark, and distinguish by the Number 1, 2, 3, and so on, to the Number Two Hundred.

Commissioners appointed to lay out 200 Acres into 200 Lots,

and 300 Acres of Common.

III. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Surveyor aforesaid, shall make Two exact Plats, with Certificates particularly expressing the Lots, Streets, Lanes, and Alleys of the said Town, with their Numbers, Lengths, Breadths, and Names, of every of them, one of which Plats and Certificates, subscribed by the said Surveyor, and the aforesaid Commissioners, or the major Part of them, shall be delivered to the Governor, for the Time being, and the other, subscribed as aforesaid, to the Clerk of the County aforesaid, to be by him safely kept, and the Certificate thereof Enrolled amongst the Records of the same County; which said Plat and Certificate lodged in the Custody of the said Clerk, all Persons shall and may, by virtue of this Act, have free Liberty to inspect without any Fee or Reward.

Two Plats to be returned of the Survey.

IV. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, shall, and are hereby impowered to, treat and agree with the Proprietor or Proprietors, Owner or Owners, or Persons interested in the Land aforesaid, so as aforesaid to be laid out into a Town and Common; or with the Agents, Factors, or other Persons

Power of the Commissioners to take up the Land by Purchase or Valuation.