## IARYLAND GAZET

JUNE

for the better regulating the government of the presinge of the Maffachusetti-Bay, in North-America.

PHEREAS by letters patent under the great feal of England, made in the 3d year of the reign of their late majesties king William and queen Mary, for uniting, erecting and incorporating, the ral colonies, territories, and tracts of land therein tioned, into one real province, by the name of their fty's province of the Maffachusetts-Bay, in Newland, whereby it was among other things ordain. nd established, that the governor of the said proonated by their majesties, their heirs and succes-it was however granted and ordained, that from expiration of the term, for, and during which the t and twenty persons named in the faid letters nt, were appointed to be the first counsellors or af-nts to the governor of the said province for the being, the aforefaid number of 28 countellors or ants should yearly once every year, for ever there-

and whereas the faid method of electing fuch counrs or affiltants, to be vested with the several powers, horities, and privileges therein mentioned, although formable to the practice heretofore used, in such of colonies thereby united, in which the appointment the respective governors had been vested in the geal courts or assemblies of the said colonies, hath by eated experience, been found to be extremely ill ipted to the pian of government established in the syince of the Massachusetts-Bay, by he said letters ent herein before mentioned, and hath been so far or contributing to the attainment of the good ends purposes thereby intended, and to the promoting the internal welfare, peace, and good government, to the maintenance of that just subordination to, and nformity with the laws of Greet-Britain, that the inner of exerciting the powers, authorities, and pri-leges aforefaid, by the perfons fo annually elected, the for some time part been such as 'had the most mafest tendency to obstruct, and in great measure defeat e execution of the laws, to weaken the attachment of s majesty's wen-disposed subjects, in the said province, his majesty's government, and to encourage the ille spoted among them to proceed even to acts of direct sistance to, and defined of, his majesty's authority; id it hat accordingly happened, that an open refif-nce to the execution of the laws hath actually taken ace in, the town of Boston, and the neighbourhood ereof, within the faid province;

And whereas it is, under these circumstances, become ofolittely necessary, in order to the preservation of the ace and good order of the faid province, the protecon of his majesty's well-disposed subjects therein resient, the continuance of the mutual benefits arising rom the commerce and correspondence between this in dom and the faid province, and the maintaining f the just dependence of the said province upon the rown and parliament of Great-Britain, that the said bethod of annually electing the counsellors or affistants if the said province should no longer be suffered to ontinue, but that the appointment of the faid coun-ellors or affiltants thould henceforth be put upon the ike footing as is established in such other of his majesty's clonies or plantations in America, the governors vhereof are appointed by his majefty's commission under he great seal of Great-Britain:

He it therefore enacted, by the king's most excellent naiests, by and with the advice and consent of the ords spiritual and temporal, and commons in this pre-fent parliament assembled, and by the authority of the fame, that from and after the

to much of the charter granted by their majesties king William and queen Mary, to the inhabitants of the said province of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and all and every clause, matter, and thing, therein contained, which relates to the time and manner of electing the affiftants, or counfellors, for the faid province, and all elections and appointments of fuch counsellors and affistants made in pursuance thereof, and that from and after the

the council or courts of affiftants of the fald province for the time being shall be composed of such of the inhabitants or proprietors of lands within the same, as shall be thereunto nominated or appointed by his majefty, his heirs, and fucceffor by warrant under his or their fignet or fign manual,
and with the advice of the privy council, agreeable to
the practice now used in respect to the appointment of
counselors in such of his majesty's other colonies, in America, the governors whereof are appointed by com-million under the great feal of Great-Britain; provided the number of the faid affiltants or counsellors shall not at any one time exceed

And it is hereby further enacted, that the faid affiffants or counsellors so to be appointed as aforesaid, shall hold their offices respectively, for and during the plensure of his majetty, his here, or successors and stall have and enjoy all the powers, privileges, and immunities, at present held; exercised and enjoyed by the sufficient and counsellors of the sa province, constituted

and elected from time to time, under the faid charter, except as hereinafter excepted; and shall alfo, upon their admission into the said council, and before they enter upon the execution of their offices, respectively take the oaths, and make, repeat, and subscribe the declarations required, as well by the faid charter as by any law or laws of faid province now in force, to be taken by the affiftants or counsellors, which have been so elected and constituted as aforefaid.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid,

that from and after the it shall and may be lawful for his majesty's governor for the time being, of the said provide, or in his absence; for the lieutenant-governor, to nominate and appoint, under the feal of the province, from time to time, the judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commis-fioners of over and terminer, the attorney general, theriffs, provoits, marshals, justices of the peace, and other officers to the council or courts of justice belonging, and to remove the same without the consent of the council; and that all judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commissioners of over and terminer, the attorney general; theriffs, provoits marshals, justices, and other officers so appointed by the governor or, in his absence, by the lieutenant-governor alone, shall and may have, hold, and exercise, their said offices, powers and authorities as fully and completely, to all intents and purpoles, as any judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commissioners of oyer and terminer, attorney general, fheriffs, provofts, marshals, or other officers, have or might have done heretofore under the letters patent, in the third year of the reign of their late majesties king William and queen Mary, any law, statute, or usage, to the contrary notwith-

Frovided always, and be it enacted, that nothing herein contained thall extend, or be construed to extend to annul or make void the commission granted before the to any judges of the-inferior courts of common pleas, commissioners of oyer and terminer, the attorney general, sheriffs, provoits, marshals, justices of the peace, or other officers; but that they may hold and exercise the same, as if this act had never been made, until the same shall be determined by death, removal by the governor, or other avoidance, as the case may happen.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, that upon every vacancy of the offices of the chief justice and judges of the superior court of the said province, from and after the vernor for the time being, or in his absence, the lieus tenant governor, without the consent of the council, shall have full power and authority to nominate and appoint the perions to fucceed to the faid offices, who shall hold their commissions during the pleasure of his majesty, his heirs and successors; and that neither the chief justice and judges appointed before the said

nor those who shall hereafter be ap pointed nursuant to this act, shall be removed, unless by the order of his majesty, his heirs or successors, under his or their fign manual.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforefaid, And be it further enacted by the authority aforeignd, that the governor, lieutenant-governor, chief justice, the judges of the superior court, and the secretary of the said province, for the time being, shall be, and they are hereby appointed during their continuance in their respective offices, justices of the peace in and for every county of the said province, and shall and may have hold and enion all the powers and authorities have, hold, and enjoy, all the powers and authorities given to the justices of the peace by virtue of their commission, or by any act of the general court of the said

And whereas by an act of the general court of the faid province, made in the fourth year of their. late majesties king William and queen Mary, intitled "an act for regulating of townships, choice of town officers, and setting forth their power," the free-holders and inhabitants of the several townships, rateable at twenty pounds estate, are authorised to assemble together, in the month of March in every year, upon notice given by the constable, or such other as the select men of the town shall appoint, for the choice of select men of the town shall appoint, for the choice of select men of the town shall appoint, for the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the town shall appoint the choice of select men of the lect men, constables, and other officers; and the freeholders and inhabitants arealfo impowered to make and agree upon fuch necessary rules, orders, and bye laws, for the directing, managing, and ordering, the prudential affairs, and to annex penalties for the non-obfervance of the same not exceeding twenty shillings for one offence; provided they be not repugnant to the ge-

neral laws of the faid province:

And whereas a great abuse has been made of the power of calling such meetings and the inhabitants have, contrary to the design of their institution, been misled contrary to the design of the most reperal concern, and to treat upon matters of the most general concern, and to pass many dangerous and unwarrantable resolves; for remedy whereof, be it enacted, that from and after

the no town meeting thall be called by the felect men, or at the request of any number of freeholders, without the leave of the governor in writing, expressing the special business of the said meeting, first had and obtained, except the annual meeting, in the month of March for the choice of said meeting. of feleft men, conftables, and other officers; and that no other matter final be treated of at such meeting, except the election of their aforesaid officers, nor as

any other meeting, except the business expressed in the leave given by the governor.

And whereas, in pursuance of an act of assembly of the said province, made in the 7th year of the reign of William the third, and three other acts of affembly made in the eleventh year of the fame reign, jurors, as well grand as petty, have been usually summoned and returned by the constables of the several towns, by virtue of writs or warrants directed to them, by the clerks of the feveral courts, requiring them to assemble the inhabitants of the said towns, to chuse sit persons to serve as juriors for such towns, and to summon and seturing such arrising such arrising such assessment to the said towns, and to summon and seturing such arrising such assessment such as s return fuch persons so chosen; which practice of thusing jurors, and returning them, without the in-tervention of the sheriff, has been found to be de-trimental to the administration of justice; be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the

much of the faid acts of affembly, and of all other laws now in force, within the faid province, as directs the returns of juries to be made by the constables, by an election of the inhabitants of the feveral towns, shall

election of the inhabitants of the feveral towns, shall and all jurors, as well grand as petty, shall be returned by the sheriffs of the several counties, and no otherwise; and the justices of the superior court of the said province, at a convenient time before the sitting of the superior court in every county, and the justices of the peace for every county in the said province, at a convenient time before the sitting of the quarter session of such county, shall ssill situation of the superior of such county, from such several courts respectively to summon, out for such several courts respectively to summon, out of the freeholders and inhabitants of such county qualified to ferve upon juries, fuch a number of good and lawful men as such precept or warrant shall direct, to serve upon the grand jury at such respective court; and such persons so summoned and returned by the said sheriff, or such of them as shall appear, shall be Impannelled and sworn the grand inquest for the body of the county, and shall continue as such during the sitting of such respective court, and until they shall be dismissed by the same; and in all indistments, in formations, actions and causes depending before the superior court, or any court of quarter session, or common pleas, in the said province, which shall be at issue and ordered for trial, the juries shall be summoned, impannelled, and returned, by the sheriff of the county, out of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county, out of the freeholders and inhabitants of the faid county qualified to ferve upon juries, and shall be chosen and arrayed in such manner and form, and by and with such regulations and restrictions, as is directed and ordered in and by an act of parliament, made in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of his late majesty king William the third, institled, "An act for the ease of jurors, and better regulating of juries;" and one other act, made in the eighth and pinth years of the same reign, institled, " n act "of juries;" and one other act, made in the eighth and ninth years of the same reign, intitled, "n act to enable the returns of juries as formerly, until the first day of November, one thousand, six hun red and ninety-seven;" and one other act of parliament, made in the third year of the reign of his late majety king George the second, intitled "An act for the better regulation of juries; and one other act made in the twenty-fourth year of the same reign, intitled, "An act for the better regulation of trials by jury, and for enlarging the time for trials by nisi prius, in the county of iddlesex."

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that lists of the freeholders and impabitants of the several towns, qualified to serve upon juries, shall be returned to, and recorded at, the quarter-sessions for the several

to, and recorded at, the quarter-iessions for the several counties, and shall be delivered to the several sheriffs in mauner and form as directed by the faid acts of parliament, or any of them; and until fuch lifts of fuch freeholders and inhabitants shall be delivered as aforesaid, the steriff of any county shall and may summon and return fit persons to serve upon ittries as aforesaid, out of the body of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county, qualified to serve upon juries, according to his judgement and discretion; and whenever the judges of the superior court shall award a special jury to be struck (which they are hereby authorised and impowered to do in such manner as special juries have been usually struck in the court at Westminster at trials at bar) and if the heriff of the county in which fuch jury shall be awarded, shall not have received lists of the freeholders and inhabitants qualified to serve upon juries as, herein before ordered and directed, such theriff shall attend the proper office of the said court with a list of the reincipal freeholders theriff shall attend the proper office of the said court with a list of of the said county qualified to serve upon juries, and the said special jury shall be struck out of the said list; and it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the said superior court, and they are hereby authorised and impowered, upon the motion of either of the parties, in any case on action which shall be brought to issue, to order the said cause or action to be tried in any county, other than the county in which she said cause or action shall have been brought or laid; by a jury of such other county, a they shall judge st and proper; any act of alsembly or provincial law to the contrary notwithslanding.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all clerks of courts, sheriss, constables, and other persons within the said province, to when

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he most reasonable rates. Ca-

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