

1664
An Act Concerning Proceedings at Law.

Whereas severall differences doe arise within this Province wherein there is no Rule or Law provided in the Province whereby to determine such differences and to leave much to discretion is to open a Gyppe to Corruption for the avoiding such Inconveniencies Bee itt enacted by the Lord Proprietary by and with the Consent of the upper and lower house of this present Generall Assembly that in case where the Law of this Province is silent Justice shall be administered according to the Law of England This act to endure for three yeares; or to the end of the next Generall Assembly -

Act made at a Session of Assembly begun September the fiftenth 1663 and continued by adjournment till September 6th 1664 by the Hon^{ble} Charles Calvert Esq^r

An Act for the preservation of the severall Harbours within this Province

Whereas divers persons as well the Inhabitants of this Province as Forreigners hither trading in ships of great burthen as also in other smaller vessells have hitherto customarily used to cast out of their said shippes and other vessells their ballast in such Creeks and Harbours where they commonly Ride to take in their Lading which Customs if not timely prevented and Redresse found therefore will in short tyme prove to the decay of most of the Chiefest harbors in this Province Bee itt therefore enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary with the Consent of the upper and lower house of this present Generall Assembly That all persons whether Inhabitants or Forreigners here trading in shippes of great or lesser burthen or any other vessell with a Deck that shall after the Publication of this Act cast out of their said shippes or other vessells any kind of Ballast into the Harbour or Creeks where they commonly Ride and doe not carry itt to the shoard and lay itt above high Water marks shall for every such default forfeit and pay two thousand pounds of Tobacco the one moiety to the Lord Proprietary and the other moiety to him that sueth to be recovered by action of debt or Information wherein no wager of Law Essoyns or protection to be allowed or admitted And Bee itt further enacted that every Master of a ship or vessell bound to take notice of this Act shall at the tyme of the Entry of his said shipp or vessell have aloppie of this Act delivered him by the Secretary and he shall be bound to receive the same as aforesaid The Secretary shall