

to the use aforesaid and the other parts of the same Act as aforesaid any Law Statute or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding This Act to endure for three years or to the end of the next Generall Assembly which shall first happen

An Act for the Restraining the unreasonable overcrop of Horses in this Province

1672
Whereas by the great overcrop of horses within this Province the Inhabitants do find themselves very much impoverished in their stock and Damified in their Cornfields to the Ruin and destruction of the Inhabitants and lessning of all sorts of Provision and forasmuch as there hath been hitherto no Law provided as a remedy to restrain the growing and intollerable Grievances, Both enacted by the King and Quens most Excellent Majesties by and with the advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly by and with the same that every person that shall take up any stoned horse of any person or horses within this Province shall have two hundred pounds of Tobacco for Reward for the same the taker up delivering the said horse to the owner of the said horse and the owner thereof shall be obliged to cutt the same within six weeks after the Delivery of the said horse under the penalty of four hundred pounds of Tobacco unless the said horse be fourteen hands high to be adjudged by the next Justice of Peace, and that all stallions of the said size shall be kept within a fence or the owners thereof shall be obliged to cutt the same within six weeks under the penalty of four hundred lbs of Tobacco and that all horse colts, whatsoever be cutt for three years together within one year after such colt is foaled or else it shall and may be lawfull for any person whatsoever to kill them and that no freeman whatsoever not having land within the County where he lives shall keep but one horse and the said horse to be a gelding This Act to take place the 1st day of November next and that the fines and forfeitures in this Act mentioned be to their Majesties for support of Government to be recovered by action of Debt Bill plaint or Information wherin no Essoyn protection or wager of Law to be allowed; And that no person be allowed whatsoever presume to range in the woods for wild horses and other wild Cattle without lycens first had and obtained from the