

An Act for the Publication of Marriages.

Bee it Enacted by the King and Queens most Excellent Majesties by and with the Advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly & the Authority of the same That all persons who shall desire marriage shall apply themselves either to a Minister Pastor or Magistrate for the Contracting thereof And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that all persons within this Province intending marriage shall make Publication thereof either at the Church Chappell County Court or meeting house next where they dwell, and that at such a time as such Church Chappell or meeting house shall be full and thereby Capable to take Cognizance thereof, and that it shall and may be lawfull upon such Certificate had from the Minister Pastor or County Court when such Publication shall have been made of three Weeks after the said Publication for either Minister Pastor or Magistrate to joyne in Marriage such persons as aforesaid, and if any Person shall presume to Contract Marriage without such Publication made and Certificate thereof had as aforesaid or without Licence from the Governour for the time being, do privately within the limits of this Province contract Marriage, every person so Contracted or married shall be liable to a fine of one thousand pounds of Tobacco, and every such Minister Pastor or Magistrate Joyning in Marriage any persons without such Publication or Licence or any wayes infringing this Act shall be liable to a fine of five thousand pounds of Tobacco, the one half of the said fine