

*esendum* directed to the Sherrif of the County, which said Sherrif upon receipt of such precept from such Justice aforesaid shall immediately levy the same upon his her or their Goods Chattels or Body, as the nature of the Writt shall require, all which such Sherrif shall do *ex officio*, saving to such Sherrif his fees of imprisonment if the party shall remain in custody twenty four hours.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, &c. that in all Actions that shall be brought by any person or persons in any of the County Courts of this Province after the publication of this Law, wherein upon tryal it doth appear to the Court that the just ballance doth not exceed two hundred pounds of Tobacco or sixteen Shillings and eight Pence in Money the Plaintiff shall be non suited, and judgment shall not be given any County Court of this Province to any person or persons for any such ballances aforesaid, but that the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited as aforesaid.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that in any action or actions after the end of this Sessions of Assembly that shall be brought in the Provincial Court of this Province and upon tryal it doth appear to the Court that the just ballance is under fifteen hundred pounds of Tobacco, or six pounds five shillings in Money the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited as aforesaid.

And Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that his Majestys high Court of Chancery within this Province shall not hear, try, determine or give Relief in any Cause or Causes wherein the original Debt or Damages doth not amount to the Sum of twelve hundred and one pounds of Tobacco or five pounds and one penny in Money but that the Judgments of the County Courts of this Province for 12 hundred pounds of Tobacco or five pound in Money shall be final, any Law custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

*An Act for relieving the ill practices of the Attorneys of this Province, and ascertaining the Attorney General and Clerk of the Indictments Fees.*

WHEREAS by a certain Ordinance of Assembly made at a General Assembly held at the Port of Annapolis the twentieth day of May Anno Domini 1695. it was ordain'd that the Attorney General of this Province should have four hundred pounds of Tobacco Fee for all Actions he should bring upon Bonds taken in the name of our Sovereign Lord the King, and put in Suit in the Provincial Court of this Province to be paid by the party bound in the said Bond, and for all Criminal Causes where the Grand jury shall find the Bill in the Provincial Court the Attorney General to have four hundred pounds of Tobacco, and that the Clerk of the Indictments in the several and respective County Courts should have two hundred pounds of Tobacco of the Criminals where the grand jury found the Bill by colour of the said Ordinance and lucre of Fees several Bonds have been put in Suit without any default, and several *venures* have been issued before any presentment of the grand jury, or any order of the Court, so that divers of his Majestys good Subjects of this Province have been unjustly grieved, troubled & molested upon every trivial and slight complaint to the Attorney General and to the said Clerks of Indictments, for preventing of which great evil for the future the Delegates of this General Assembly do humbly pray that it may be enacted, And

BE IT ENACTED by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and consent of this present General Assembly & the Authority of the same, that after the end of this Sessions of Assembly no summons or other Process for a criminal matter or misdemeanor shall issue out of any of the Courts of this Province against any person or persons whatsoever without a presentment be first found against the said person or persons by the grand jury, unless by a special order of Court, and if the Attorney General or any other Attorney of the Provincial Court shall issue such summons or any other Process against any person or persons and no presentment or order of Court appears upon the Record to justify the same the said Attorney so offending shall forfeit and pay for such his offence the Sum of five thousand pounds of Tobacco, the one half to his Sacred Majesty towards the defraying of the publick Levy of this Province, the other half to the party grieved, or him or them that shall inform or sue for the same, to be recover'd in the Provincial Court of this Province by Bill, Plaint or Information, and if any

Clerk