

the truth of the matter, may be better known, diligently to inquire if it be to the damage of us or others if we grant — of — County twenty Acres of Land lying at N: N: in the County aforesaid, viz. ten Acres of the one side the Run, and ten Acres on the other side such run of water, together with liberty to take, fall, cut down and carry away either by land or water any wood or timber fit for building a Mill, other then timber fit to split into Clap boards upon any of the Lands next adjoining to the said twenty Acres of Land lying on each side of the said run of water at N: N: aforesaid in the County aforesaid, and if it be to the damage & prejudice of us or others, then to what damage and prejudice of us, and to what damage and prejudice of others, and of whom and in what manner, and how and of what value they are by the year, according to the true value thereof now before any further improvement made of the said twenty Acres of Land, and who are the present possessors of the said twenty Acres of Land, and what Lands and Tenements remain to the present possessors over the said twenty Acres, and if the land remaining to the present possessors over the said twenty Acres will suffice to uphold their manner, viz. the sixth part of their manner allotted by the conditions of Plantations for the Demesne as afore the Alienation so as the County by the Alienation aforesaid, in default of the present possession more than was wont be nor charged and grieved, and the inquisition thereupon openly and distinctly made to us in our Chancery, under the Seal and Seals of them by whom it was made, with our delay tend &c.

Upon return of which Writt in case the person or persons whereby the said inquisition shall be found to be true owners and possessors of the said land fit to build a Mill upon, shall refuse to build a Mill thereon, & give security to his said Majesty by bond of fifty thousand pounds of tobacco, with condition to build a Mill thereon within one year from that day to be computed and reckoned, and the same building to prosecute & finish within two years after the said beginning or laying the foundation as afore said for the publick good of the Province, it shall and may be lawful for his said Majesty his Heirs or Successors, or for their chief Governour here for the time being from time to time to grant any such twenty Acres of Land to be used a Water mill upon as aforesaid, together with free egress and regress to the said Water mill, either by land through any Mans land next adjoining or else by water, together with liberty to fall any timber for building the said water mill, other then boat timber fit to split or cleave into clap boards for any time or term not exceeding eighty years then next to come, under the yearly rent of the land then by the oath of twelve Men by vertue of the Writt aforesaid returned to be paid to the owner of the said land so found and returned as aforesaid, which shall remain from his said Majesty his Heirs and Successors or from the chief Governour here for the time being as aforesaid shall be good & available in Law to the present and also to all future times, not exceeding eighty years as aforesaid, and shall not be void, nor voidable by any Law, custom or usage heretofore had, made or to be made, but shall stand to the contrary notwithstanding.

It is provided always that before any person or persons whatsoever shall have such grant to build a Water-mill as aforesaid, they shall enter into a Bond with his said Majesty with two sufficient Sureties in the sum of fifty thousand pound; of tobacco with condition to begin to build the said Water-mill within one year then next to come, and the building to prosecute & finish within two years after such beginning, and for the great advantage that is already found to the Province in general by the Mills already built, some of which do stand upon lands whereof the title is doubtful, the want of due form of the Conveyance, or the last wills and testaments by which the lands have been conveyed or devised to the builders of such Mills.

It is therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that all and every such person or persons as aforesaid who have built Mills shall or may have such Writt returned as aforesaid to inquire of the true yearly value of the land where such Mills do stand, and of ten Acres of land on each side of the said run as aforesaid, and the return of such Writt as aforesaid, shall have a grant from his Majestys chief Governour here as aforesaid for any term not exceeding eighty years, and the yearly rent to be paid to the right owner of the said land as aforesaid, shall stand to the contrary hereof notwithstanding.

It is also enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that from and after the said day the tenth day of October next or persons whatsoever, having or that shall hereafter have