

And the Clerk of the present General Assembly and the Authority of the same; that from and after the publication hereof no Mannors, Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments whatsoever within this Province shall pass, alter or change from one to another whereby the Estate of Inheritance, or Freehold or any Estate for above seven years shall be made to take effect in any person or persons, or any use or trust except the Deed or Conveyance by which the same shall be intended to pass, alter or change the same be made by writing, indented and sealed, and the same to be acknowledged in the Provincial Court or before two Justices thereof, or in the County Court, or before two Justices of the same where such Mannors, Lands, Tenements or Hereditaments do lie, and such Deed or Conveyance to be inrolled in the Provincial or County Court where the same doth ly, such inrollment to be made within twelve months after the date of such writing indented as aforesaid, and for the caption of such inrollment there shall be paid to the party taking the same twelve pence sterling and no more, and the Clark shall well and sufficiently inroll such Deed or Conveyance in a good sufficient Book in Folio, to remain in the custody of the Clark of the same Court for the time being amongst the Records of the same Court, and that the same Clark shall on the back of every such Deed in a full legible hand make an indorsment of such inrollment, and also of the Folio of the Book in which the same shall be inrolled, and shall unto such indorsment set his hand.

Provided always, and be it hereby Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that when the grant or or grantors, bargainor or bargainors of such lands, tenements or hereditaments shall live remote from either the Provincial Court or County Court, where the land lieth, it shall and may be lawful for such grantor or bargainor to acknowledge the same in the County where such bargainor liveth, and a certificate of such acknowledgment under the hand of the County Clark and under the Seal of the same County, such acknowledgment shall be taken, deem'd reputed & be as good and valid as if the same had been acknowledged either in the Provincial or County Court where such land lieth, and be a sufficient Warrant for such County Clark where the land lieth to inroll the same, and if any such grantor or bargainor of any such lands or tenements as aforesaid shall happen to be out of this Province and within any his Majesty's Dominions at the time of the enfealing such writing or writings indented, so as the same cannot be acknowledged in manner and form as is before directed or inrolled, within the time for that purpose herein before limited, then in every such case, such lands or tenements as aforesaid shall be acknowledged by Letter of Attorney well and sufficiently proved, either in the Provincial or County Court where such lands or tenements lie, or before two Justices of the Provincial or County Court as aforesaid for acknowledgment and be inrolled as aforesaid, any thing herein before contained to the contrary hereof notwithstanding.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that every such writing indented to be acknowledged and inrolled as aforesaid, shall have relation as to the passing and conveying of the premises; and the Estate and Estates thereby passed or intended to be passed and conveyed by & from the day of the inrollment of the same, and not from the day of the date thereof, and shall at all times be returned, and taken in effect lawfully and beneficially for the benefit and advantage of the grantee or grantees, and more to wit for the barring of the grantor or grantors thereof to be named, and according to such intents as the words thereof shall appear to have been the true intent of the parties hereunto, altho' the same be not so firmly drawn as is used in England, where the advice of Council learned in the law may easily be had.

Provided always, that if any Feme Covert be named a party grantor in any such writing indented, the same shall not be of force to debar her or her heirs, except upon her acknowledgment of the same, and the person or persons taking such acknowledgment shall examine her privately out of the hearing of her husband whether she doth make her acknowledgment of the same willingly and freely, and without being induced thereto by force or threats of or used by her husband or fear of his displeasure, and the person or persons so examining her shall in a note or certificate of the said caption of the said acknowledgment certify her examination and acknowledgment thereupon, and that such certificate be likewise inrolled upon Record, in which case & by such Feme Covert shall be heard and not otherwise, any thing herein before contained to the contrary notwithstanding.