

*Thomas Howel* now lying under Execution for debt in the custody of the Sheriff of *Kent* County into the custody of the Sheriff of *Kent* County.

An Act for naturalization of *John-Francis Holland* of *Baltimore* County.

An Act for Recording in the Commissary Generals Office several Copys of Wills & Inventarys and other proceedings of the late Deputy Commissary of *Dorchester* County.

An Act giving power to the Farmers of the Lord *Baltmores* Rents to recover the Arrears thereof after expiration of their Lease,

An Act to continue to the Sheriffs of *Talbot Kent & Cecil* Countys power of Execution for publick Dues and Officers Fees within the present bounds of their severall Countys after the first day of *May* next til the last of *June* next after, or until their severall Commissions expire, which shall first happen.

An Act to impower several persons therein named to assess and apportion the publick Levy for this present Year of our Lord 1707.

Several Acts of Assembly formerly made declared to be in force.

An Act for the Service of Almighty God, and Establishment of Religion in this Province according to the Church of England &c.

Forasmuch as in a well grounded Christian Common-Wealth, Matters concerning Religion and the Honour of God ought in the first place to be endeavour'd & taken into consideration, as that which is not only most acceptable to God, but the best way & means to obtain his Mercy & Blessing upon a people or Country.

Be it therefore Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by & with the Advice & Consent of this present General Assembly and the Authority of the same, that all things that have been heretofore legally done by verue of former Acts of this Province for this purpose made, and bearing this title or tending thereto, in and since the Year 1691 be and are hereby ratified & confirmed according to the reasonable intent & direction of the said Law, to the intent that the further proceedings on so great and good a work may be advanced & perfected by this Law. To which purpose,

Be it Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments, with other Rites and Ceremonys of the Church, according to the use of the Church of *England*, the Psalter or *Salms* of *David* and Morning & Evening Prayer therein contain'd, be solemnly read by all & every Minister or Reader in every Church or other place of publick Worship within this Province. And whereas the present constitution of this Province being in its Infancy, will not admit of raising a maintenance by way of Tythes as in *England*, Be it Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that for the encouraging of faithful & able Ministers labouring in the work of the Gospel to come and reside in this Province, in stead of such Tythes usually in *England* as aforesaid, a Tax or Assessment of forty pounds of tobacco per pole be yearly and every year successively levy'd upon every taxable person within each respective Parish within this Province as they have been now are or hereafter shall be laid out limited & appointed by the Law of this Province and enter'd upon Record as the said former Laws therein did direct, which said assessment of forty pounds of tobacco per pole shall always be paid & allow'd to the Ministers of each respective Parish having no other benefice to officiate in, presented inducted or appointed by his Excellency the Governour of this Province or other person thereunto legally authorized in manner hereafter express'd and ordained: And every such Minister is hereby required and enjoyned to appoint and constantly to keep a Clark of such Parish Church and to pay and satisfie such Clark the sum of one thousand pounds of tobacco yearly and every year out of the said forty per pole.

And to prevent all illegal & unlawful Marryages not allowable by the Church of *England* but forbidden by the Table of Marryages, Be it Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that no Minister Priest or Magistrate shall presume to joyn together in marryage any persons whatsoever contrary to the Table of Marryages by this Act appointed to be set up in every Parish Church within this Province; nor shall any persons forbidden to marry together by such table of marryages presume to be joyned in marryage under the penaltys following (that is to say) under the penalty of five thousand pounds of tobacco upon the Minister Priest or Magistrate joyning such persons in marryage, and under the like penalty of five thousand pounds of tobacco upon the persons so joyned in marriage, to our Sovereign Lord the King for the uses in this Act hereafter mentioned.

And to prevent any lay persons from joyning any persons in marryage where a Minister or Priest can be had, and to ascertain what shall be paid for marryages; Be it likewise Enacted by the authority aforesaid, that in every parish where any Minister or Incumbent shall reside, or have charge of Souls therein, no Justice or Magistrate shall joyn any persons in marryage, under the penalty of five thousand pounds of tobacco for such offence, to our Sovereign Lord the King as aforesaid, and that it shall be lawful for every Minister to take & receive of every person or persons by him marryed the sum of five shillings sterling and no more, any Law to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided such persons come to such parish Church or Chapel at time of Divine Service for contracting such marryage.

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