

as aforesaid, under the penalty of one hundred pounds of tobacco to such Register refusing or neglecting to enter it, having received his fee for the same; and such Register is likewise hereby obliged to shew any person or persons reasonably desiring it any such Register, or give a Certificate of any Register of Births Marriages or Burials that shall be reasonably required of him, and shall have for his fees from such persons six pence for any search, and six pence for any Copy or Certificate given as aforesaid and no more; hereby ratifying and confirming as valid all Registers or Entries of any Births Marriages or Burials heretofore made with any Clerk of any County Court, according to directions of such Laws as were then in force, before any of these Laws were in being.

And that the Register of each parish may be enabled to perform the charge hereby required of him, Be it Enacted by the authority advice & consent aforesaid, that if there be any Vestrys of any Parishes that have not already provided good & substantialy writing Books well bound, sufficient for registering such proceedings in, according to the directions of the former Laws, that in every such case of Neglect or Omission, the Vestry of such parish shall at the parish charge provide such Book or Books within six Months from the end of this Session of Assembly, under the penalty of two hundred pounds of Tobacco each Vestryman, (the Minister only excepted) neglecting as aforesaid, to the uses herein mentioned.

And that there may be no neglect in the Vestries, or those employed under them in the careful and condicionable performances of their severall charges in this Law contained, the said severall Vestrys are hereby obliged to meet frequently, or as often as need shall require, upon notice given by the principal Vestryman of each parish, to consult of the methods & ways of performing the severall authorities reposed in them; and from which Vestrys so appointed, no Vestryman without lawfull impediment shall absent himself, under the penalty of one hundred pounds of tobacco each Vestryman wilfully neglecting to appear as aforesaid; and under the same penalty to such principal Vestryman, who shall not appoint such Vestry to meet when need shall require, such omission & neglects to be noted in the Vestrys Register of proceeding and recorded in his Majesty's Name: And the said severall & respective Vestries are hereby further enjoyned, that where there are no tables of Marriages already put up in their respective parish Churches, with all convenient speed, and within six Months at the most, to procure a fair Table of Marriages transcribed and set up in their respective Churches, and the same keep continually in the said Church, that persons being thereby informed what Marriages are forbidden may avoid the contracting any such unlawful Marriage; and that the said Vestrymen do once every Year in or about the Month of January yearly make choice of and appoint two sober & discreet Freeholders of their respective parishes to be Churchwardens for that year, upon penalty of two hundred pounds of tobacco each Vestryman, (except those excepted) neglecting either in the Table of Marriages or appointing Churchwardens to our Sovereign Lord the King as aforesaid, which Churchwardens so chosen shall take the usual Oaths, and likewise declare on his Oath given by the Vestry, well & truly to execute that office the ensuing Year according to the best of his knowledge: And any such person or persons so chosen Churchwarden or Wardens that shall wilfully refuse to serve in the said office and take the Oaths aforesaid shall be fined one thousand pounds of tobacco to our Sovereign Lord the King, and the Churchwardens and Vestry are authorized and required to take constant care to satisfy & pay the parochial charges, and of all necessary repairs & amendments of the respective Churches Chapels or Churchyards, and cause the same at all times to be repaired and amended as need shall require; and satisfy & pay the same either out of the forty *per pole* where no Minister is appointed, or out of such other Gifts, Grants, Goods, Charrels or Credits as shall come to their hands for the Church or Parish use if there be any Minister instituted therein; But if it shall happen that there should be a Minister legally instituted therein, and the Vestry have not any Effects in their Hands, besides the forty *per pole* to pay parochial charges as aforesaid, or to make such necessary repairs as is required, then and not otherwise it shall be lawfull for the Justices of the County Courts upon application of such Parish Vestry and Churchwardens to assess the respective Parishes by a certain Sum of Tobacco not exceeding ten pounds of tobacco by the pole in any one Year; which assessment made by such County Court, and a certificate thereof under the County Seal, shall be sufficient for the Sheriff of such County to Levy such Tax by the pole on the taxables of such parishes in the same manner as other publick dues are Levied, and shall not exceed above five *per Cent* for his salary, and pay the same to such Vestry for the use aforesaid.

And to the intent that this Act may answer the End of the Makers, which is, that his Majesty's good Subjects of this Province may be instructed in Religion, and therein of their Duty to God his Majesty and themselves, and those pious and exemplary Persons that shall labour therein provided for, Be it further Enacted by the authority advice and consent aforesaid, that no Minister or Incumbent shall at one time hold more than two Parishes, nor two Parishes but by the desire & agreement of the Vestry of the said adjacent parish and consent of the Vestry where he resides, and the appointment of his Excellency the Governour, or other Person legally authorized thereunto for the time being; nor claim either or larger part of the forty *per pole*