

any Two or Three of them, be, are hereby authorized, empowered and appointed Commissioners to inspect into the several Decays and Defects of all the Records of the Land, Secretary, and Commissary's Offices, and to judge of the necessary Amendments and Reparations thereof, and to employ such Clerks, Book-binders, or other Persons, as appear needful to them, for the compleating and perfecting the Amendments and Reparations they shall adjudge necessary; and to contract and agree on the Behalf of the Public, with all such Persons by them employed in that Service, on the best and easiest Terms they can, for such Sum or Sums of Tobacco as they shall adjudge the several Persons for their several Services may deserve, which Sums of Tobacco agreed on as aforesaid, shall be paid by the Public to the several Persons to whom the same become due.

C H A P.
I.
Commissary's and Secretary's Offices, and to employ Clerks, &c.

III. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That after the Expiration of Three Months, which shall first happen after the Reparations and Amendment of the Records aforesaid are made, according to the Design of this Act, and the true Intent and Meaning of such Agreement as shall be made by the Commissioners hereby authorized and required to make the same, it shall not be lawful for the Secretary, Commissary, their Deputies, Officers, or Under-Clerks, who shall have the keeping of the Land, Secretary's or Commissary's Records committed to them, to take upon themselves the keeping of any of the said Records, or to receive and apply to their Use any of the Fees, Profits or Benefits arising from their several Offices, until such Secretary, or his Deputies, or Commissary-General, have entered into Bond, with two good and sufficient Securities, in the Name of the Lord Proprietary, before two of the Justices of the Provincial Court (*That is to say,*) The Secretary or his Deputies for the Land, Chancery and Provincial Records, in the Sum of One Thousand Pounds Current Money; and the Commissary for the Records in the Commissary's Office, in the Sum of One Thousand Pounds Current Money; all which Bonds shall be conditioned as follows, *viz.*

After which, the Secretary, Commissary, their Deputies, &c. shall not take upon themselves the keeping of the said Records, &c. before entering into Bond with Sureties.

* By 1742, ch. 10, §. 2, the Secretary's Bond for the Provincial Office, shall be for 3000*l.* Current Money; the Register in Chancery 1000*l.* the Commissary-General for the Commissary's Office 3000*l.* the Register of the Land-Office 3000*l.* Currency.

“ The Condition of this above-written Obligation is such, That if the above Condition of
 “ Bound *whilst he shall continue in the Office of* shall at his the Bond.
 “ own proper Cost and Charge, find a Supply of good and sufficient Record-Books,
 “ necessary for the entering up of all Matters and Things relating to such
 “ Office, and shall duly and carefully look after, preserve and maintain all the se-
 “ veral Books of Records now being and remaining in the said Office, as also those
 “ that from Time to Time shall be added thereto, in such Manner, as that when
 “ shall be dismissed from officiating longer in the said Office, shall deli-
 “ ver all the aforesaid Records to the next Person that succeeds in the said Office,
 “ in good Order and Repair, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the Act
 “ of Assembly, in that Case made and provided: That then the above-written
 “ Obligation is to be void and of no Effect, otherwise to remain in full Force and
 “ Virtue in Law.”

The which Bond being so entered into, and taken by Two Justices of the Provincial Court as aforesaid, they shall immediately call before them, the Witnesses to said Bond or Bonds, and cause a Probate thereof to be made before them, which they shall endorse, or cause to be endorsed on the Back of the said Bond or Bonds, with Order immediately to enter the said Bond with the Endorsement, in the Provincial Land Records, which shall be immediately performed by the proper Clerk; and after such Entry upon Record, the original Bond is to be immediately lodged with the Clerk of the Council, in the Council Office, who is hereby required to take Charge of the same; and that an attested Copy of the said Bond, from the said Provincial Records, shall be as good Evidence in Law, to maintain any Action of Debt to be brought

The Witness-
 ses to make
 Probate of
 such Bond,
 which shall
 be endorsed
 and recorded
 together with
 the Bond.

An attested
 Copy shall be
 good Evi-
 dence.