

An Act ascertaining what Damages shall be allowed upon Protested Bills of Exchange.

BE it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province and the Authority of the same, That there shall not be allowed to any person or persons whatsoever, having just Cause to implead any Person or Persons whatsoever, Living or Residing within this Province, upon any Bill of Exchange drawn for any Sum or Sums of Money whatsoever payable in England, or elsewhere, and brought in here Protested, more than the Sum of Twenty Pounds per Cent. Damages, over and above the Debt Sued for and recovered, together with ordinary Costs of Suit, any Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

20 per Cent. and Costs of suit.

Bills protested and returned within 4 Years to be of equal nature with specialties, and in payment by Executors and Administrators to be so regarded On Notice.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons draw any Bill of Exchange upon any Person or Persons, or Society or Company in England, or elsewhere, out of this Province, and the same be Protested, and the Protested Bills be returned into this Province within Four Years after the Date of such Bills, that then the Debt or Damage occasioned by the non-acceptance or non-payment of such Bills, shall be accounted a Debt of equal Nature with any Specialty, and in payment of Debts by Executors or Administrators, be preferred before any other Debt which is not under Hand and Seal, such Executor or Administrator having timely notice of such protested Bills of Exchange, any Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

But 15 per Cent. on Protests returned within 18 Months.

Provided nevertheless, That in Case any Bills of Exchange to be drawn after the end of this present Sessions of Assembly, that shall be returned into this Province, Protested within Eighteen Months from the Date of such Bill, there shall not be allowed above Fifteen per Cent. for the Damages thereon, besides the Costs as aforesaid, any thing before contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

An Act for the Punishment of Blasphemy, Prophane Swearing, Cursing and Drunkenness.

BE it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the End of this present Sessions of Assembly, if any Person or Persons whatsoever, within this Province, shall Blaspheme God (that is to say) Curse him, or deny our Saviour JESUS CHRIST to be the Son of G O'D, or shall deny the Holy Trinity, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, or the God-Head of any the three Persons, or the Unity of the God-Head, or shall utter any Prophane Words concerning the Holy Trinity, or any the Persons thereof, for his, her or their first Offence shall be bored through his, her or their Tongue, and fined the Sum of Twenty

Blasphemies enumerated and punishment for the 1st Offence.