

And to the Intent that whensoever it shall appear to the Governour or Commander in Chief of this Province, for the time being, and his Council, to be necessary to raise forces for the Suppressing of any Foreign Invasion or Domestique Insurrection or Rebellion, or any War with any Indians, that the aforesaid Officers and Soldiers may be duly paid according to the proportions aforesaid, and all other Charges and Expences for the Charge and Management of such War, may be duly paid and discharged, without which this Province cannot be defended and secured,

*Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid,* That from henceforth all such Necessary Charges of such War and Soldiers pay, as aforesaid, shall be paid, discharged and defrayed by a publick Levy, by an equal Assessment upon the Taxables of this Province, by the Consent of the Free-Men of this Province by their Representatives in a General Assembly, or out of the Publick Treasure of this Province and no otherwise whatsoever.

How to be paid,

And to the Intent that the Inhabitants of this Province may not be abused, by having their Goods and Provisions prest by loose or Idle Persons, and many times abuse their Commissions and the People.

*Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid,* That from henceforth the Commissioners of each respective County, shall yearly and every Year, viz. between the Twenty ninth Day of September, and the Twenty Fifth Day of December, nominate and appoint, two Honest and Substantial Men of their County to be Press-Masters for the Year ensuing; and if any one dye or depart the County, or be lame or sick within that Time, that then the next Justice of Peace to nominate and appoint another in his Stead, that if occasion require they, and no other, shall Impress Victuals and other things given them in Charge to be Prest, by Warrant from his Excellency, the Governour or Commander in Chief, for the time being. And if any others but Press-Masters, so appointed, shall presume, upon pretence of any power, as a Press-Master, to seize, take, prest or carry away any Goods or Commodities of any the Inhabitants of this Province, he or they shall pay to the Person grieved Trebble the Value of the Goods or Commodities so as aforesaid, unjustly prest.

Press-Masters to be Appointed,

And their Power ascertained,

Offenders to be Punisht,

*Provided,* That no Press-Master or any person or persons whatsoever, shall presume at any Time to seize, prest or carry away from the Inhabitants, Residents of this Province, any Arms or Ammunition of any kind whatsoever, upon any Duty or Service, or upon any Account whatsoever, unless by order of the Governour or Commander in Chief of this Province for the Time being, under the Penalty aforesaid, any Law, Statute or Usage to the Contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Arms not to be prest without order.

*And be it likewise Enacted by the Authority aforesaid,* That the Commissioners of any County - Court within this Province, who shall not between the Twenty Seventh Day of September and the Twenty fifth Day of December, in each respective Year, by Precept from the County-Court, signed by the Clerk of the Court, nominate and appoint such and so many Press-Masters for every County, as aforesaid, shall each of them forfeit and pay unto his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, for the Support of Government, the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, and such Press-Masters who shall be so nominated and appointed, as aforesaid, by such precept, as aforesaid, to him or them directed, and shall thereupon refuse or neglect to serve, and truly perform and execute the said Place and Office of Press Master,

Justices failing to appoint Press-Masters to be Fined.

Press-Master refusing to serve &c.