

An Act for Sanctifying and keeping Holy the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday. 3.

FORASMUCH as the Sanctifying and keeping Holy the Lord's Day, commonly called *Sunday*, hath been and is esteemed by the present and all the Primitive Christians and People, to be a principal part of the Worship of Almighty God, and the Honour due to his Holy Name; Be it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of this present General Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the Publication of this Law, no Person or Persons whatsoever within this Province, shall work or do any bodily Labour or Occupation upon the Lord's Day, commonly called *Sunday*, nor shall command or wilfully suffer any of his, her, or their Children, Servants, or Slaves, to work or labour, as aforesaid (the Works of absolute Necessity and Mercy always excepted) nor shall suffer or permit any of his, her, or their Children, Servants, or Slaves, or any other under their Authority, to abuse or prophane the Lord's Day, as aforesaid, by Drunkenness, Swearing, Gaming, Fowling, Fishing, Hunting, or any other Sports, Pastimes, or Recreations whatsoever: And if any Person or Persons within this Province, from and after the Publication hereof, shall offend in all or any of the Premises, he, she, or they so offending, shall forfeit and pay for every Offence the Sum of One hundred Pounds of Tobacco, to the Use of the Poor of the Parish where the Offender or Offenders do dwell and reside, the said Offences or any of them being done in View of any Justice of the Peace, Magistrate, or other Head Officer, of any County, City, or Town Corporate within this Province, within their Limits respectively, or being proved by the Oath of Two or more Witnesses, or by Confession of the Party offending, before any such Magistrate, Justice, or Head Officer, within their several Limits respectively wherein such Offences shall be committed, to which End every Justice, Magistrate, or other Head Officer, shall have Power by this Act to administer Oath to such Witness or Witnesses; any of which Sum or Sums of Tobacco so forfeited, shall and may be executed and levied by the Sheriff or Constable by Warrant to any of them directed, from any such Justice or Justices of the Peace, Magistrate, or other Head Officer, as aforesaid, within their several Limits, where all or any of the said Offences shall be committed or done, by Distress or Sale of the Offender's Goods, rendering the Party the Overplus; all which Forfeitures shall be to our Sovereign Lord the King, His Heirs and Successors, to the Use aforesaid, to be recovered in any Court of Record within this Province, by any Person that will sue for the same, by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, is to be allowed: And the said Justices, Magistrates, Head Officers, Sheriffs, or Constables, shall render an Account thereof at the next Court to be holden for the respective County, City, or Borough, where the said Offence shall be committed; and in Default of such Distress, the Sheriff, Under Sheriff, or Constable, are hereby authorized and impowered to bring the Party offending before the next Justice of Peace, who is hereby authorized and impowered to bind such Offender or Offenders over to the next Court to be holden for the County, City, or Borough respectively, and to be, during the Interval, of good Behaviour.

AND be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That the Minister of each respective Church or Chapel of this Province do, in pursuance of His Majesty's Royal Letter directed to the Right Reverend Father in God, *Henry Lord Bishop of London*, and countersigned by the Right Noble Prince *Charles Duke of Shrewsbury*, Their Majesties
Principal