

An Act empowering the Commissioners of the County Courts to levy and raise Tobacco, to defray the necessary Charges of their Counties and Parishes. No. 24.

BE it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of Her Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That for the future it shall and may be lawful to and for the several and respective Commissioners of the several and respective County Courts within this Province, at their several and respective County Courts to be held for their said Counties, upon Examination had before them of the Publick Charges of their several and respective Counties, and Allowances by them made of the same, to levy and raise Tobacco for Payment and Satisfaction of the several and respective County Charges, and the Sheriff's Salary for Collecting thereof, by an equal Assessment of the taxable Persons of the said several Counties; Any former Law, Act, Usage, or Custom to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That the Clerk of each respective County within this Province, shall keep Account of such Tobacco levied, and how disposed of, in a fair Book, apart from other Matters, and a true Copy thereof under the Hand of the respective County Clerk, and under the Seal of the said County, by the said County Clerks be Yearly and every Year transmitted to the Governor and Council of this Province, before the Tenth Day of *March* next ensuing after the laying of the Levy, for their Inspection.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That if any Clerk of any County Court aforesaid, shall neglect to transmit a Copy of such Account, as aforesaid, before the Tenth Day of *March*, as aforesaid, Yearly and every Year, he shall forfeit and pay to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, Her Heirs and Successors, the Sum of One thousand Pounds of Tobacco; One Half to Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, for the Support of Government, the other Half to the Informer, or him or them that will sue for the same, to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Complaint, or Information, in any Court of Record of this Province, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law to be allowed.

AND for Purchasing Register Books, and for Repairing of Churches, It is pray'd, That it may be Enacted; and be it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of Her Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That when and as often as the Necessity of each respective Parish shall require Repairs or Supplies, the Vestrymen, and Church-wardens thereof, shall apply themselves to the Justices of the County Courts, at the Time of the Laying the County Levy; who, upon the Necessity appearing to them, shall and are hereby empowered to raise, by an equal Assessment by the Poll, on the Inhabitants of such respective Parish, such Sums of Tobacco, as by the said Justices shall be adjudged necessary to supply the Occasions aforesaid, over and above the County Levy, not exceeding the Sum of Ten Pounds of Tobacco *per* Poll in One Year; which Sum so raised, shall be collected and gathered by the Sheriff of the same County, and paid to the Vestrymen of each respective Parish or Parishes, at the Rate of Five *per Cent.* for his Salary.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That where there is no Minister or Resident in the Parish, the Vestrymen of each respective Parish in this Province shall keep a fair Account of the Disposition of the Forty Pounds of Tobacco *per* Poll, levied in their Parish, according