

legible Character, within Two Months after the End of each Session, and shall transmit the same so transcribed into the Secretary's Office, there to remain, and the Secretary is required by this Act to receive the same accordingly; and the Clerk or Clerks making Default, shall forfeit Five hundred Pounds of Tobacco each for every Offence; the One Half to His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the Support of the Government of this Province, and the other Half to him or them that shall sue for the same, to be recovered as aforesaid.

AND be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That the Secretary shall be allowed for Recording the said Acts, in the Publick Levy, so much as the General Assembly shall think the said Secretary shall reasonably deserve.

*Pass'd June 3d, 1715.*



*No 59. An Act for Punishing the Offences of Adultery and Fornication.*

BE it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That after the End of this Session of Assembly, whosoever shall directly or indirectly entertain, provide for, or cause to be entertained or provided for, any Lewd Woman or Women, or that shall frequent her or their Company after that Admonition to him or them be given by the Minister, or the Vestry, or the Church-warden or Church-wardens of the Parish where such Person or Persons shall inhabit, shall be adjudged a Fornicator or Adulterer, as the Case shall be, and shall suffer such Penalties, as by this Law is hereafter appointed.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid; That every Person or Persons, that shall commit Fornication, and be thereof convicted in the Provincial or County Court, either by Confession or Verdict of Twelve Men, shall be fined Thirty Shillings current Money of this Province, or Six hundred Pounds of Tobacco, by the Justices before whom such Conviction shall be, to the King's Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the Support of the County Charge.

AND be it Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That every Person or Persons, that shall commit Adultery, and shall be thereof convicted, either by Confession or Verdict of Twelve Men, either in the Provincial, or any of the County Courts of this Province, shall be fined by the Justices before whom such Conviction shall be, Three Pounds current Money, as aforesaid, or Twelve hundred Pounds of Tobacco, to the King's Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, towards Defraying such County Charge, as aforesaid. And in Case the said Offenders, or any of them, shall not have wherewith to pay the several Fines by this Act imposed, then the said Offenders shall be adjudged to suffer Corporal Punishment, by Whipping upon his or their bare Bodies till the Blood do appear, so many Stripes, not exceeding Thirty nine, as the Justices, before whom such Conviction shall be, shall adjudge.

PROVIDED, That this Act shall not be construed to extend as to the Fine to Women, who have Bastards, and do refuse to discover the Father or Begetter of such Children; but that in such Cases it shall be at the Discretion of the Justices, before whom such Woman or Women shall be convicted, either to take the Fine by this Act appointed, or to award Corporal Punishment; Any thing in this Act before to the contrary notwithstanding.