

The Penalty.

Province, shall for every such Offence, forfeit and pay to the Employer or Owner of such Apprentice, or other Servant or Slave, treble Damages and Costs, to be adjudged by the Justices of each respective County-court, or the Justices of the Provincial Court, for the Time of such Apprentices, or other Servants or Slaves unlawfully being transported or carryed away as aforesaid.

An ACT for securing Persons Rights to Town-Lands.

Act made in 1683.

And in 1684.

In 1686.

In 1694.

WHEREAS it is represented to this General Assembly, that several Persons of this Province, and Others that have taken up Lots in several Town-Lands, laid out and surveyed for Towns, according to the Directions of several Laws of this Province heretofore made, (*That is to say,*) One Law made at a General Assembly held at the Kidge in Anne-Arundel County, the Second Day of October, One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Three, entituled, *An Act for Advancement of Trade*, and one other Act made at a General Assembly held at the City of St. Mary's, the first Day of April, One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Four, entituled, *An Additional and Supplementary Act, to the Act for Advancement of Trade*, and the other Act made at a General Assembly held at the City of St. Mary's, the Twenty Seventh Day of October, One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Six, entituled, *A further additional Act to the Act for Advancement of Trade, and the supplementary Acts of the same*; And another Act made at a Sessions of Assembly begun and held at the City of St. Mary's, the Twenty First Day of September, Anno Domini One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Four, entituled, *An Act for erecting Anne-Arundel and Oxford Towns into Ports and Towns*, as by the several Acts of Assembly remaining upon Record in the Secretary's Office of this Province, may appear: And notwithstanding the several Persons, who (relying and depending upon the Benefits and Priviledges in the said Laws granted,) have taken up Lots in the said Towns, entered them and paid for them, or were ready to pay for them, as the Law directed, and have built and improved thereon, yet they are now threatened, disquieted and disturb'd by the Persons claiming Right to the said Lands, upon Pretence that because the said Acts are since repealed, the Titles of such Takers up, Builders and Improvers are destroyed, and dye with the said Acts of Trade, contrary to the true Sence and rational Construction of the same Laws, or any other of like Nature: To prevent therefore, and take off all such unnecessary Doubts and Scruples thereof,

Confirmed to those that tendered Pay.

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 all and every Person or Persons, that during the Continuance of the before mentioned Acts of Assembly, did take up, pay for, or tendered, or were ready to pay for any Lot or Lots of Land in any Town-Land, laid out and allotted for Town-Lands by the former Laws, or any of them, and of the same Lot made due Entry, and hath built and improved upon the same, and followed the Directions of the above-mentioned Laws, the said Person