

bly then made : And that if any Person shall presume to purchase or lease any Part thereof, (except as before excepted) such Purchase or Lease shall be utterly void, and of none Effect.

No former Lease to be good longer than 7 Years to come.

On Refusal of Payment of Rents to the Indians, their Leases to become void.

And it is hereby further Enacted, That no Lease for Term of Years, or for Life, already made, shall be of any Force or Effect longer than Seven Years after the End of this Sessions of Assembly ; and that those Persons who hold by Virtue of any such Lease from the said *Indians*, be and are hereby obliged punctually and faithfully to pay and satisfy to such *Indian* or *Indians* under whom they hold, the several and respective Rents contracted for : And if any Person shall refuse or delay to pay such Rent yearly, as it becomes due, such Lease shall become void. And it shall and may be lawful for any Justice of the Peace within the County where such Rent shall arise and become due, and remaining unpaid ; upon Complaint to him made by such *Indians*, to issue Warrant, give Judgment, and award Execution for the same, in the same Manner as in the Act for Recovery of small Debts is provided.

Certain Sales or Grants made void.

And be it further Enacted, That all Sales, Gifts, Grants or Leases, made by any the *Indians* aforesaid, since November Seventeen Hundred and Twenty One, of any the Lands lying on the South Side of Secretary Sewel's Creek aforesaid, and the Southern Branch thereof, and within the Lines run by Col. *Thomas Smithson*, and Lieutenant Col. *Thomas Ennalls* aforesaid, being contrary to an Ordinance of Assembly then made ; be and are hereby declared to be null, void and of none Effect.

Provided, &c.

Provided nevertheless, That such Surveys and Purchases which have already *Bona Fide* been made since November Seventeen Hundred and Twenty One, or which hereafter shall be *Bona Fide* made of any of the *Choptank* Indians Lands, comprehended within the Meets and Bounds surveyed and ascertained by the Honourable *Philemon Lloyd*, Esq; Colonel *Richard Tilghman* and Colonel *Mather Tilghman Ward* Commissioners, as aforesaid, and lying to the Eastward, Southward or Westward of the Lines run by Colonel *Thomas Smithson*, and Lieutenant Colonel *Thomas Ennalls* aforesaid ; be and are hereby confirmed and made valid unto the Purchasers or Takers-up of the same, and their Heirs and Assigns for ever : Any Thing in this Act to the contrary, notwithstanding.

No Person to purchase of the Indians only when they are sober.

And Deeds of Sale to be publicly acknowledged by them.

Provided likewise, That such Purchases by any Person or Persons of any Land belonging to the *Choptank* Indians aforesaid, be made when those *Indians* are Sober and of sound and perfect Memory ; and the Consideration agreed for, paid or secured to be paid to them by such Purchasers, before the executing of the Deeds of Sale ; and that all Deeds of Sale hereafter made by the *Indians* aforesaid, shall be acknowledged by them before the Justices of the County in Court sitting, or before One or more of his Lordship's Council, who are hereby empowered to take the same, otherwise to be void and of no Effect.