

1789. NOVEMBER.

L A W S o f M A R Y L A N D.

C H A P. VIII.

Passed 10th of
Dec. 1789.

An ACT to regulate the assize of Bread. Lib: JG. No. I.
fol. 93.

Justices to ap-
point assessors,
&c.

B E IT ENACTED, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the peace in any county within this state, at the next or any succeeding session of their courts, to be holden after the first day of January next, to appoint three assessors residing in any city or town within their respective counties, wherein the regulations intended by this act may be necessary, to set, ascertain and appoint, in any place or places within their respective jurisdictions, the assize and weight of the several sorts of bread following, which shall in any such place or places be made for sale, sold or exposed to sale, and the price to be paid for the same; and that in every assize of bread which shall be so set, in pursuance of this act, due regard shall be had, from time to time, to the market price which flour, whereof such bread shall be made, shall be sold in the cities, towns or places, in or near the place where such assize shall be so set; and that the said assize shall be set and ascertained according to the table following, in avoidance of weight, of sixteen ounces to the pound: When the price of fine flour, middlings and rye flour, by the one hundred and twelve pounds weight, respectively, shall be seven shillings, then a four-penny loaf shall weigh three pounds five ounces and an half; when seven shillings and six-pence, then three pounds three ounces and an half; when eight shillings, then three pounds two ounces; when eight shillings and six-pence, then three pounds and half an ounce; when nine shillings, then two pounds fifteen ounces; when nine shillings and six-pence, then two pounds fourteen ounces; when ten shillings, then two pounds twelve ounces and an half; when eleven shillings, then two pounds ten ounces; when eleven shillings and six-pence, then two pounds nine ounces; when twelve shillings, then two pounds eight ounces; when twelve shillings and six-pence, then two pounds seven ounces; when thirteen shillings, then two pounds six ounces; when thirteen shillings and six-pence, then two pounds five ounces; when fourteen shillings, then two pounds four ounces; when fourteen shillings and six-pence, then two pounds three ounces; when fifteen shillings, then two pounds two ounces and an half; when fifteen shillings and six-pence, then two pounds one ounce and an half; when sixteen shillings and three-pence, then two pounds and half an ounce; when seventeen shillings, then one pound fifteen ounces and an half; when seventeen shillings and nine-pence, then one pound fourteen ounces and an half; when eighteen shillings and six-pence, then one pound thirteen ounces and an half; when nineteen shillings and three-pence, then one pound thirteen ounces; when twenty shillings, then one pound twelve ounces and an half; when twenty shillings and nine-pence, then one pound eleven ounces and an half; when twenty-one shillings and six-pence, then one pound ten ounces; when twenty-three shillings, then one pound nine ounces and an half; when twenty-four shillings, then one pound eight ounces and an half; when twenty-five shillings, then one pound seven ounces and an half; and so in proportion for loaves of a larger or smaller size.

Price of flour
to be given once
a month, &c.

II. AND, in order to enable the said assessors, within their respective jurisdictions to set the assize of bread with justice and equity, BE IT ENACTED, That the respective prices which the several kinds of flour fit to make the said different sorts of bread allowed to be made by this act, shall commonly and generally, from time to time, *bona fide* sell for in Baltimore-town and other places aforesaid, and not at particular times or on particular contracts only, shall once in every month, or oftener if necessary, as the said assessors respectively shall appoint, be given and delivered in writing, on oath or affirmation, to the said assessors, by the clerk of the market, or such other person or persons, in the places aforesaid, as the said assessors respectively shall order and appoint; and within two days next after such return of the prices aforesaid, the assize, weight and price, of all kinds of bread to be made for sale, sold or exposed to sale, shall, from time to time, be set by the assessors aforesaid, within their respective jurisdictions, and that after the fixing and setting such assize, the same shall, with all convenient speed, be made public in such manner as the said assessors shall think proper, and shall be in force until a new assize shall be fixed and set; but before any advance or reduction shall be made in the weight of bread in any of the places aforesaid, the clerk of the market, or the person or persons appointed as aforesaid to give in the prices of flour, shall deliver copies of such return to two of the bakers residing within the place for which the same shall be made, with notice thereunder written of the time and place of setting the next assize, to the end that the bakers of such place may have, from time to time, an opportunity to offer to such assessors their objections, (if any they have,) against any advance being at that time made in the weight of bread.

III. AND