

Prain, as Tobacco Creditors are obliged to receive when they execute upon their Debtors for Tobacco which they cannot pay; the Houses in this reason alluding to the Act passed 1722. 10. is for the relief of poor Insolvent Debtors, who cannot pay their Tobacco Debts in Specie, if they may not lay in prison if they have any of the commodities mentioned to pay y^e. Debts in; But, for the Assembly, without any reason, to put y^e. Clergy that foot, with relation to every one of their parishioners, solvent or Insolvent, & to make them take their payments in all events, as other persons are freed to do in case of desperate Debts, is so great a hardship upon the Clergy that they humbly hope, that altho' would induce y^e. Lordship, to dissent to the present Act.

Y^r. pet^r therefore for himself & for his brethren, most humbly prays y^e. Lordship's consideration of the premises, & y^e. his Agent & Counsel may be heard upon this Act. before y^e. Lordship. And that thereupon y^e. Act may be totally dissolved & repealed, & y^e. Clergy of y^e. Lordship's Province fully relieved in y^e. present, & y^e. y^e. Lordship would in y^e. great wisdom free them from any future occasion for these repeated troublesome & expensive applications.

and they as in Duty bound shall ever pray
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Test: John Paris
Agent for the pet^r 18. Nov: 1730

B All parties were heard by their Counsel accordingly on the 17th 1730 before the Lord Proprietor.

December 17th 1730, all parties attended before the Lord Proprietor, who declared his Assent to the Act, entitled an Act for Improving the Staple of Tobacco, & for continuing part of an Act ascertaining the Gauge & Tare of Tobacco Hogsheads; & to prevent Copping, Cutting & Defacing Tobacco taken on board Ships & Vessels upon Freight; & for laying Impositions on Tobacco p^r. y^e. Hogshead, for y^e. Support of Government, & for y^e. encouraging Settlements in this Province, by ascertaining the manner of paying his Majesty's Alienation Taxes & Quit-Rents, for the Term herein proposed; & for y^e. taking off the 3^d. p^r. the former