

Counties of this Province occasioned for that they have been forced to pay the fees of imprisoned Criminal persons, the persons by wts. such fees ought heretofore to have been payd or hereafter to be payd being released, and going free, to the great encouragement of offenders for probation wherof for the future.

Be it enacted by the Right hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary by and with the advice and consent of the upper and Lower houses of this present gen^{le} Assembly and the authority of the same That from henceforth no person either Sheriff nor Gaoler shall charge either their own County to which they do belong, or the Publick for any fee for any Criminal committed to his or their Charge having a sufficient Estate in this Province wherewith to pay the same or being capable to make satisfaction for the same by servitude or otherwise. But that such Criminals as aforesaid being discharged by Order or course of Law shall pay his own fee to the Sheriff or Gaoler according to Act of Assembly either out of his said estate, or by Servitude or otherwise whatsoever And the Sheriff or Gaoler shall not demand of such Criminals soe discharged by Ord^r as aforesaid any fee for any thing after the said Ord^r made unless the party soe freed as aforesaid shall delay payment of such fees by Servitude or otherwise. PROVIDED always that this act shall not extend to Malfact^{ors} which are executed, or to such other persons who are banished having no estate in this Province or Servants Criminals. In all such Cas^s the Sheriff or Gaoler shall recover and be payd such fees by the County where the fact was committed and the Criminal resided, or by the whole Countrey at the discretion of the Justices of the Provinciall Court, and

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that all and every Servant Criminal for whom the County shall pay the fees due to the Sheriff as aforesaid shall affter the end and expiration of his time of servitude to his master satisfie unto the Commiss^{rs} of the County who paid such his fees for him to the Sheriff as aforesaid for the use of such County, such sume as they have payd as aforesaid. And the severall Commiss^{rs} of the severall Countys shall and are hereby impowered to make inquisition affter all such servants Criminals for whom the County hath defrayed the said fees to the Sheriff, And the said Commiss^{rs} according to their best discretion shall Ordre the said servants to make such reasonable satisfaction to the County as they