

Terrific Example upon the poor Inhabitants of this Province, as
 Exact & Extort from them excessive & exorbitant Fees contrary
 Act of Assembly. This present Gen^l Assembly being very desirous
 all such Abuses & Grievances may fully & effectually be prevented
 & voided for the future by no Sheriffs nor Under Sheriffs
 upon presumption of being long continued in this place, attempt
 to threaten or to afflict any of the Inhabitants of this Province
 by Colour of his Office or by his or their Insolent & Unlawful behaviour
 & Terrific such wronged & abused Inhabitants by making their just Com-
 -plaints known for fear of further mischief or Revenge from
 such Sheriffs or Under Sheriffs many succeeding or future years
 to pray if it may be Enacted & be it Enacted by the R^l Hon^{ble} the
 Prop^{ty} of this Province by with the advice & Consent of the Upper
 Lower Houses of this present Gen^l Assembly if from after the
 first day of May next shall be in the year of our S^d One thousand
 six hundred seventy Nine Noe Sheriffs or Under Sheriffs of any
 County within this Province shall continue or remain in his
 or their Office or Offices of Sheriffs or Under Sheriffs of such County
 for any longer or greater time than one whole year from the first
 time of his Entrance into his Office or Offices any Law or usage
 to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding unless such Sheriff
 or Sheriffs is to be Commissioned & continued for longer time than
 one year for every year after the first year shall receive from
 the respective County Courts A Cert^{ificat} of his or their just Execu-
 -tion of his Office & of every Year of the Justices of the County
 Courts now no Just Occasion for his or their Removal. and be
 it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid by with the advice & Consent
 aforesaid if any Sheriff or Under Sheriff shall for & future accept
 of a Commission from the sd Office of Sheriffs or Sub Sheriffs Contrary
 to the true intent & true meaning of this Act & without such Cert^{ificat}
 from the County Court as aforesaid first had obtained then every
 such Sheriff shall forfeit & pay to the Prop^{ty} the sume of two hun-
 -dred pounds first & every such Under Sheriff shall forfeit & pay to
 the Prop^{ty} the sume of Twenty pounds first the One halfe of
 both the sd forfeitures of the sd Sheriff or Under Sheriff to be & One
 halfe to the Informer or Informers or his or them if will Informer
 sue for the same to be Recovered in any Court of this Province by
 Bill plaint or Information wherein no Esquire Protection or wagers
 of Law to be allowed Provided always if this Act nor any thing therein
 contained shall not extend to bar any person whatsoever from
 taking his Legall Remedy agst any Sheriff for taking exorbitant
 Fees or any other Offence whatsoever Relating to his Office any
 thing in this Act to the contrary in any wise Notwithstanding This act
 to Endure for three years or to the End of the next Gen^l Assembly
 next shall first happen.