

# An Act for encouragement of making Linnen & Woollen Cloath within this Province.

The Upper & Lower Houses of this present Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly having taken into their serious consideration the great quant<sup>y</sup> of Linnen and Woollen Cloath which are brought from foreign parts into and spent in this Province by the Inhabitants of this Province for want of the like Policy & Industry as other Country have attained unto in the Inventing & practicing & putting in Exercise the making of Linnen or Woollen Cloath so yearly spend vast summes of money & quant<sup>y</sup> of tobb in purchasing those manufactures for Cloathing & considering the great benefit & advantage if they by the making of such manufactures of Linnen & Woollen Cloath will accrue to this Province and being willing to give all encouragement if may be to any person or persons whatsoever if will make or cause to be made any Linnen or Woollen Cloath do humbly pray if it may be enacted by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly & the authority of James by from a full & Publication thereof any person or persons whatsoever Inhabitant within this Province if shall make or cause to be made & woven within this Province of the growth & manufacture of this Province any quant<sup>y</sup> of Linnen or Woollen Cloath of what kind soever such person or persons making or causing to be made such Linnen or Woollen Cloath as aforesd within this Province shall for his & their encouragement in the advancing & setting forward such manufactures have recourse from the severall & Respective Count<sup>ies</sup> of the severall Respective County Courts within this Province where the sd person or persons so making or causing to be made such Linnen or Woollen Cloath as aforesd shall dwell & reside for every yd of Linnen Cloath so to be made as aforesd being three quarters of a yd broad at the least the sume of six p<sup>o</sup>unds of tobb and for every yd of woollen Cloath so to be made as aforesd being three quarters of a yd broad at the least the sume of ten p<sup>o</sup>unds of tobb to be raised & paid to the person or persons making or causing to be made such Linnen or Woollen Cloath as aforesd in manner & forme as hereinafter is set downe & expressed that is to say every person or persons Inhabiting within this Province that shall make it sufficiently appaere to the Count<sup>ies</sup> of the Respective County Court where he or they shall live or reside if he or they have made or caused to be made & woven in the same County of the growth & manufacture of this Province any quant<sup>y</sup> of Linnen or Woollen Cloath of the breadth aforesd with by producing the same to the Count<sup>ies</sup> of the said severall & Respective County Courts in their Courts sitting or to any other person or persons by whom the Count<sup>ies</sup> from time to time for y<sup>e</sup> purpose to be appointed or by any other sufficient person or persons by the sd severall & Respective County Courts to be appointed allowed of shall deliver to the Clerk of the Respective County Courts where he or they shall Inhabit as aforesd a particular of the quant<sup>y</sup> of yds of Linnen or Woollen Cloath by him or them made & woven or caused to be made & woven as aforesd of the breadth aforesd with the name when the same was made & woven by whom the same was so made & woven with the name of such County Court.