

# An Act against excessive Usury.

Be it enacted by the Divers most excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and Consent of her Majestys Governour Councill and Assembly this province and the Authority of the same that no person or persons within this province whether Inhabitant or Foreigner upon any Contract from and after the end of this present Session of Parliament shall exact or take directly or Indirectly for Loans of any Money Wares or Merchandizes or other Commodities whatsoever to be paid in money above the value of Six pound for the forbearance of one hundred pound for one year and so after that rate for a quarter or lesser time or for a longer or shorter time. Nor shall any person or persons what so ever within this province as aforesaid from and after the time aforesaid exact and take directly or indirectly for Loans of any Tobacco Wares Merchandizes or other Commodities for one year to be paid in Tobacco or other Commodities of this province above the value of eight pound of Tobacco for the forbearance of one hundred pound of Tobacco and after that rate for a quarter or lesser time or for a longer or shorter time. And that all Bonds Contracts and Assurances what so ever made before the time aforesaid for payment of any principall money or Tobacco Goods or Commodities aforesaid to be lent or contracted to be performed upon or for any Usury whereupon or whereby there shall be reserved above the value of Six pound in the hundred for money as aforesaid or above eight pound in the hundred for Tobacco or other goods & Commodities as aforesaid shall be void and that all & every person and persons what so ever within this province aforesaid shall upon any Contract to be made take accept and receive by way or means of any Course Bargain Loans Exchange or otherwise or Interest of any Wares Merchandizes or other thing or things or by any lawful way or means or by any Court Instrument or otherwise the sum or value of the said money or Tobacco goods and Commodities aforesaid for their money Tobacco goods and Commodities aforesaid or a quantity of Tobacco aforesaid for the forbearance