

At a Session of A S S E M B L Y begun and held at the City of A N N A P O L I S, in M A R Y - L A N D, the Third Day of October, 1728, the following L A W S were Enacted.

*An ACT for ascertaining the Form of the Oath of Judge or Justice.*

**W**HEREAS the Oath of *Judge or Justice*, (appointed to be taken by the Statute of the Eighteenth of *Edward the Third*,) does not in many Particulars provide for the Constitution of this Province, nor suit the Circumstances of any other Proprietary Government :

*Be it therefore Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Lordship's Governour, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That at some convenient Time, after the End of this present Session of Assembly, and before the last Day of March next, the following Oath shall be taken, as the proper Oath of Office, by the Members of the Court of Appeals, as Judges to correct Errors in Judgments and other Proceedings at Law, the Justices of the Provincial and County Courts, and the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis, for the Time being, changing only what is to be changed, according to the different Stations of such Magistrates, viz.*

“ **Y**OU shall swear, That as a Justice of the Provincial Court of *Mary-*  
 “ *land*, in all Articles of his Lordship's Commission to You directed,  
 “ You shall do equal Law and Right to all the King's Subjects, rich and  
 “ poor; according to the Directions of the Acts of Assembly of this Province,  
 “ so far forth as they provide ; And, where they are silent, according to the  
 “ Laws, Statutes, and reasonable Customs of *England*, agreeable to the  
 “ Usage and Constitution of this Province ; and not delay any Person of  
 “ Common Right, for any Cause or Pretence whatsoever : And in case any  
 “ Letters, or other Commandments, shall come to You, contrary to Law,  
 “ that You do nothing by them, but cause them to be entered on Record,  
 “ and certify the King, the Lord Proprietor, or the Governour ( for the  
 “ Time being, ) of them, and proceed to execute the Law, notwith-  
 “ standing the same Letters, or Commandments : That you shall hold  
 “ your Courts according to the Acts of Assembly, and the Directions in your  
 “ Commission : That you shall do and procure the Profit of the Lord Pro-  
 “ prietor, in all Things where you may lawfully and reasonably do the  
 “ same. And that you shall not debar or hinder the Prosecution of Justice ;  
 “ nor take any Gift, Bribe or Fee, for delaying, or rendering Judgment ;  
 “ but shall behave your self justly, honestly and faithfully, to the best of your  
 “ Knowledge and Understanding, so long as You shall continue in the said  
 “ Office”.

*So help you G O D.*