

pealed and abrogated: Any thing in this Law to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding.

*An ACT for the Laying out of Land, and erecting a Town at the Head of Port-Tobacco Creek, in Charles County.*

**W**HEREAS the Inhabitants of *Charles-County*, by their humble Petition to the Legislature of this Province, have set forth, That the Land contiguous to that whereon the Court-house for the said County, is now Building, at the Head of *Port-Tobacco Creek*, is very convenient for a Town, being near the Center of the County, and commodious for Trade: And for that it appears to this General Assembly, that the erecting a Town at the Place aforesaid, will be advantageous, as well to the Inhabitants of the said County, as others Trading or Resorting thereto: It is therefore pray'd that it may be Enacted,

*AND BE IT 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 Colonel *John Fendall*, Major *Robert Hanson*, Mr. *John Courts*, Mr. *Samuel Hanson*, Capt. *George Dent*, Doctor *Gustavus Brown*, and Mr. *Henry Holland Hawkins*, or the Major Part of them, are hereby appointed Commissioners, and by Virtue of this Act authorized and impowered to agree for, and purchase Sixty Acres of Land at the Place aforesaid, and to cause the same to be survey'd and laid out in the most convenient Manner, so as to adjoin to and encompass the Lands belonging to *Port-Tobacco Church*, and the said Court-house.

*AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED*, That the Commissioners aforesaid, or the Major Part of them, are hereby impowered to meet together at the Court-house at the Place aforesaid, some Time before the Thirtieth Day of *September* next: And the Commissioners aforesaid, shall give Notice to the Person or Persons interested in the said Lands, of such their Meeting, some convenient Time before, that such Person or Persons may (if he, she, or they, think fit) attend, in Order to treat with the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, concerning the Purchase of the said Sixty Acres of Land. And in Case the Owner or Owners of the said Land shall neglect to appear, or wilfully refuse to make Sale of the same, or through Nonage, Coverture, *Non Sanæ Memoriae*, or any other Disability or Impediment whatsoever, be or are disabled to make such Sale as aforesaid, that then the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, shall, and are (by Virtue of this Act) impowered and required to issue their Warrant, under their Hands and Seals, to the Sheriff of the said County, requiring him to impanel and return a Jury of the most substantial Free-holders, Inhabitants within the said County, to be and appear before the said Commissioners, at a certain Day and Place by them to be appointed; which Jury, upon their Oath, by the said Commissioners, or the major Part of them, to be administered, shall enquire, assess, and return, what Damages and Recompence they shall think fit