

July 1732

( 28 )

to the said River, as for surveying and laying out the same, in the most convenient Manner, into Forty equal Lots, to be erected into a Town.

*AND be it further Enacted*, That the Commissioners aforesaid herein before nominated and appointed, or the major Part of them, are hereby impowered, some Time before the Last Day of *March*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord God One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Three, to meet together at the said Bridge, or some other convenient Place thereto, and shall then and there treat and agree with the Owner or Owners, and Persons interested in the said Forty Acres of Land; and after Purchase thereof, shall cause the same to be surveyed, laid out, and divided, as near as may be, into Forty equal Lots, allowing such sufficient Space or Quantity thereof, for Streets, Lanes, and Alleys, as to them shall seem meet, with Posts or Stakes towards every Street, Lane, or Alley; the said Lots to be numbered One, Two, Three, and so on to Forty, for the better and more sure distinguishing each Lot from the other: Of which Forty Lots, the Owner or Owners of the said Land on each Side, shall have his or their first Choice for One Lot, and after such Choice, the remaining Lots may be taken up by others; and that no Person shall presume to purchase more than One Lot within the said Forty Acres to be laid out, as aforesaid, during the first Four Months after laying out the same; and that the said Lots shall be purchased by the Inhabitants of each County where the Twenty Acres of Land on each Side the said River shall be situated. And in Case the said Inhabitants shall not take up the said Lots within Six Months after such laying out, as aforesaid, it shall then be lawful for any Person or Persons whatsoever, to take up any such Lot or Lots, paying the Owner or Owners proportionably for the same. And in Case the Owner or Owners of the said Forty Acres of Land, shall wilfully refuse to make Sale of the same, or through Nonage, Coverture, or any other Disability or Impediment whatsoever, 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, authorized, impowered, and required, to issue Warrants under their Hands and Seals, to the Sheriff or Sheriffs of the said County; which said Sheriff or Sheriffs are also hereby required and impowered, upon Receipt of such Warrants, to impanel and return a Jury of the most substantial Freeholders, Inhabitants within the said Counties, to be and appear before the said Commissioners at a certain Day or Time by them limited: Which Jury, upon their Oath, shall enquire to whom the said Land belongs, and assess and return what Damages and Recompence they shall think fit to be awarded to the Owners of the said Twenty Acres of Land lying on each Side of the said River, and to all Persons interested therein, according to their several and respective Interests; and what Sum of Tobacco the said Jury or Juries shall adjudge the said Twenty Acres of Land to be worth, on each Side the said River aforesaid, shall be paid to the Owners so found by their Verdict, and to all Person or Persons they find interested therein, by such Person or Persons as shall take up the said Lots, proportionably to their Lot or Lots, which shall give the said Purchaser or Purchasers, their Heirs and Assigns, an absolute Estate in Fee Simple in the said Lot or Lots, he, she, or they complying with the requisites in this Act mentioned.

*AND be it further Enacted*, That the Surveyor of *Queen-Anne's* County, shall have and receive, for surveying and laying out the