

An Act for Emitting and Making Current, Ninety Thousand Pounds, Current Money of Maryland, in Bills of Credit.

WHEREAS Tobacco, the only Staple of this Province, and the principal Dependance of its Inhabitants, hath for several Years past produced so little, that several of the People, not able to get the Necessaries of Life, by the Fruits of their Labour, have been obliged to desert their Habitations; and many more must follow their Example, or be constrained to attempt some other Way of living, less advantageous to the Trade of *Great-Britain*, their Mother-Country, than making Tobacco, unless some Expedient can be found, to remove the Difficulties under which they have long laboured:

AND whereas, the most probable Means to enable the People to discharge their Taxes, and other Engagements now payable in Tobacco, otherwise; and to destroy such ordinary and unmerchantable Tobaccos, which serve only to clog the Markets, and to depreciate the best Sorts of that Commodity, as well as to put the People in a Condition to carry on the Tobacco Trade, to the Advantage of *Great-Britain*, and this Province, is to establish a *Paper Currency*, or Bills of Credit, upon a sinking Fund: Wherefore it is prayed, that it may be Enacted:

AND be it Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That Bills of Credit, to the Value of Ninety Thousand Pounds, current Money of America, according to an Act of Parliament, made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of the late Queen Anne, For Ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins in the Plantations, to circulate for Thirty One Years, from the Commencement of this Act, shall be printed and struck, in Manner and Form following:

THIS Indented Bill of *shall pass Current, for the Sum therein mentioned, in all Payments, according to the Directions of an Act of Assembly of Maryland. Dated in Annapolis, the Day of Anno Dom.*

WHICH Bills shall be of the different Valuations hereafter mentioned; (*to wit,*) Thirty Thousand Bills of Twenty Shillings Value each; Thirty Thousand Bills of Fifteen Shillings Value each; Thirty Thousand Bills of Ten Shillings Value each; Forty Thousand Bills of Five Shillings Value each; Forty Thousand Bills of Two Shillings and Six Pence Value each; Sixty Thousand Bills of One Shilling and Six Pence Value each; Sixty Thousand Bills of One Shilling Value each.

WHICH Bills of Credit shall be signed and numbred by the Commissioners or Trustees appointed to put this Act in Execution; and the Sum of Money that each and every of the said Bills is to pass