

to all Intents and Purposes; any thing herein before contained to the contrary, notwithstanding.

An Act to impower the Inhabitants of Anne-Arundel, and Prince George Counties, to make the main Branch of the River Patuxent navigable, above Queen-Anne Town, in Prince George County, aforesaid.

WHEREAS, sundry of the Inhabitants of *Anne-Arundel*, and *Prince George* Counties, in this Province, bordering on the main Branch of *Patuxent* River, by their humble Petition to the Legislature of this Province, have set forth, That the said main Branch of *Patuxent* River may be made navigable; and that some Proposals are well received for effecting the same, by Subscription, for upwards of Twenty Miles above the said Town; and for that it appears to this General Assembly, that great Advantages may accrue thereby, to the Inhabitants of the said Counties, and also to others, trading or resorting thereto: It is therefore prayed, 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 it shall not, nor may be lawful, for any Person or Persons within this Province, from and after the End of this present Session of Assembly, to make any Hedge, Ware, or Fence, in or a-croſs the said Branch; or to repair or amend any Hedge or Hedges, Wares, or Fences, already made, or which shall be hereafter made, in or a-croſs the said main Branch of *Patuxent* River, above *Queen-Anne Town* aforesaid; or to fall, or cause to be fallen, any Tree or Trees, into the said Branch, either for the Convenience of Fishing, or for any other Matter or Thing whatsoever, whereby the Navigation up and down the said Branch may be any-ways obstructed, under the Penalty of Four Hundred Pounds of Tobacco for every such Offence; to be recovered by the Oath of the Informer, before any Justice of the County Court where such Offender shall reside; and to be aplyed, One Half to the Use of the Informer, and the other Half to be paid, or accounted for, to the County Justices, and by them applied for the Benefit of such Person or Persons as shall appear to them to have cleared, or to be concerned, at their own Expence, in clearing such River.

AND be it further Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful, for any Person or Persons whatsoever, to clear and keep the River aforesaid open and navigable, at their own proper Cost and Charges, without being obstructed by any Person or Persons whatsoever.

PROVIDED, That if the Petitioners shall not begin to clear the said River, or cause the same to be begun, within Six Months from the End of this Session of Assembly, that this Act shall cease, determine, and become null and void. *And Provided,* That if the Clearing the said River shall be begun within Six Months after the End of this Session, and shall not be compleated, so as to render the said River navigable, according to the Intent of this Act, within Six Years alter the End