

An ACT, for erecting a Town in Kent County, on the South Side of Sassafras River, on a Tract of Land, called Tolechester, at the Place where the Ferry is now kept.

WHEREAS, several of the Inhabitants of Kent County, have, by their humble Petition to this General Assembly, set forth, That many Benefits and Advantages may arise to themselves, and others, the Inhabitants of this Province, and the Traders thereto, by having a Town erected and laid out, on the South Side of Sassafras River, in the said County, in such Part of a Tract of Land called *Tolechester*, now in Possession of *Gideon Pearce*, Gentleman, not included in some Lots already laid out and sold by the said *Gideon*, to sundry Persons, at the Place where the Ferry is now kept :

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That Captain *George Wilson*, Mr. *Philip Kennard*, Mr. *Christopher Hall*, Mr. *Jervis Spencer*, and Mr. *Thomas Hynson*, or any Three of them, shall be and are hereby appointed Commissioners for Kent County aforesaid ; and are hereby authorised and impowered, as well to agree for the buying and purchasing Sixty Acres of Land, out of the Tract aforesaid, most convenient to the said Ferry Landing, not included in the Lots aforesaid, to be laid out into One Hundred Lots, to be erected with the Lots aforesaid, thereto adjoining, 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 *December*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Six, to meet together on the Tract of Land aforesaid, or some other convenient Place thereto adjacent ; and shall then and there treat and agree with the Owner or Owners, or Persons interested in the said Sixty Acres of Land, for the same ; and after Purchase thereof, shall cause the same to be surveyed, laid out, and divided, as near as may be, into One Hundred 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, as the Commissioners aforesaid shall direct, to distinguish one from the other : Of which One Hundred Lots, the Owner or Owners of the said Land, shall have his, her, or their first Choice for Two Lots ; 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 Sixty Acres, during the first Four Months after laying out the same ; and that the said Lots shall be purchased by the Inhabitants of the County aforesaid. And in Case the 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 the said Lot or Lots, paying the Owner or Owners of the aforesaid Sixty Acres, proportionably for the same. And in Case the said Owner or Owners of the said Sixty Acres shall wilfully refuse to make Sale of the same ; or that through Nonage, Coverture, or any other Disability or Impediment whatsoever, are disabled to make such Sale, as aforesaid, that then the Commissioners,