

An Act for issuing and taking out of the Office of the Commissioners or Trustees appointed for emitting Bills of Credit, established by Act of Assembly, the Sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Pounds, Current Money, for Encouragement of such able-bodied Freemen as shall voluntarily enlist themselves into his Majesty's Service, for the intended Expedition against *Canada*; and for maintaining and conveying them to the Place of Rendezvous: As also for replacing of the said Sum, and for the better regulating Ordinaries and Ordinary-Keepers, and for other Purposes therein mentioned.

**W**HEREAS his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, by his Letter, dated, *Whitehall*, April 9, 1746, to his Excellency *Thomas Bladen*, Esq; Governor of *Maryland*, has signified to him, that his Majesty has been pleased to order some Troops under Lieutenant-General *St. Clair*, from *Great-Britain*, and two Regiments at *Louisburg*, in Conjunction with such Troops as should be levied in *North-America*, for the immediate Reduction of *Canada*; and therein signified the Royal Pleasure, that his said Excellency should forthwith make the necessary Dispositions for raising as many Men within this Province as the Shortness of the Time would admit; which Men, so raised, to be formed into Companies of one hundred each, and officer'd by Persons nominated by him the said *Thomas Bladen*, Esq; and with those to be raised in the Provinces of *New-York*, *New-Jerseys*, *Pennsylvania*, and *Virginia*, to be formed into Corps, to be commanded by Mr. *Gooch*, Lieutenant-Governor of *Virginia*, whom his Majesty had been pleased on that Occasion to promote to the Rank of Brigadier-General; and that they the said Forces should rendezvous at *Albany* within the Province of *New-York*, or at such other Place as the said Mr. *Gooch* should think proper: And therein likewise recommended, that Arms should be provided for the said Men so to be raised within this Province, and for which Arms the said Lieutenant-General *St. Clair* was authorized and empowered by his Majesty to pay. And whereas, by the said Letter, it is expected that the said *Thomas Bladen*, Esq; would recommend it to the Council and Assembly of *Maryland*, to provide a sufficient Quantity of Provisions for the subsistence of the Troops. And for that it is impracticable for his Excellency the Governor to purchase a suitable Quantity of Arms within this Province, or in the neighbouring Governments, to arm compleatly the Number of Men which it is hoped and expected may be raised within this Province, whereby his Majesty's Service in that Particular might be retarded, unless the same Arms be taken out of the Magazine of this Province: We therefore, his Majesty's faithful and loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the Freemen of the Province of *Maryland*, in General Assembly convened, dutifully to comply with his Majesty's Expectations, as also to contribute