

Officers shall, and are hereby required to give such Person so applying therefore, in as short a Time as may be convenient, an Account of such Charge in Words at length: And that all Under-Clerks and Deputies, Writing in any the Offices aforesaid, or doing Service in them, shall, by the Time aforesaid, or before they enter into any the Services aforesaid, before some Provincial or County Magistrate, (who is hereby authorized and required to administer the same) take the following Oath, *viz.* You A. B. do Swear, that you will not for Lucre or Malice delay any Person or Persons applying to you for any Business belonging to the Office you officiate in, and that you will not ask or demand from, or charge to, any such Person or Persons, any Fee or Reward whatsoever, for any Service you shall do as Clerk of the said Office for your Principal; and also that in making out the Office Fees for your Principal, you will not wittingly or willingly charge other or higher Fees than limited by the Act entitled, An Act for amending the Staple of Tobacco, for preventing Frauds in his Majesty's Customs, and for the Limitation of Officers Fees.

Under Clerks to be Sworn.

The Oath.

Which said Oaths before-mentioned, shall be severally returned by the Magistrate before whom the same shall be taken, to the Provincial or County Offices, as the case shall require, and be there entred on Record. And that all and every Person or Persons, claiming right to any Fee or Fees allowed by this Act, shall be obliged to set up and affix in the most public Place of his Office, a Table of Fees, to the intent that all Persons concerned may have recourse to the same.

Table of Fees to be set up.

And be it further Enacted, That no Officer or Officers herein before-mentioned, under the Penalty aforesaid, to be recovered as aforesaid, shall make or send out their Fees on Execution but once in every Year, and that between the First Day of *December* and the Twenty-fifth Day of the same Month, yearly, during the continuance of this Act; and that the Party or Parties charged, their Persons, Goods or Chattels, shall not be executed for any of the aforesaid Fees, unless their Accounts be delivered them at or before the Twentieth Day of *February* in any Year they shall be demanded.

Execution for Fees to issue but once a Year.

And be it further Enacted, That wherever any Deputy-Surveyor returns a Certificate or Certificates for the Examination of the Examiner-General, and that the same shall be found Erroneous, that in such case the Party for whose use such Survey is made, shall not be burthened with double Fees, either by the Examiner-General, or Deputy-Surveyor; but that the several Deputy-Surveyors shall pay the Examiner-General for any extraordinary Trouble they give him in Re-examining such Fees as by this Act is allowed to the Examiner-General.

Deputy-Surveyors returning erroneous Certificates.

This Act to be in Force from the First Day of *December*, Seventeen hundred and forty-eight, until the full End and Term of Five Years.

Duration of this Act.

An Act to remedy some Proceedings in the Court of *Charles County*, and to prevent the Removal of the Records from the Public Offices.

**W**HEREAS a Fire broke out suddenly, in the House of Mr. *Edmund Porteus*, Clerk of *Charles County Court*, on the Sixteenth Day of *December* last past, and raged so violently, that notwithstanding the utmost endeavours, the said House, together with several original Papers in Causes depending in the Courts held in the Months of *June*, *August* and *November*, were consumed: And whereas there may be an obstruction to Justice in the said several Causes, without the aid of the Legislature;

Preamble.

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 the Chief Justice of the said County Court, the Sheriff of the said County, and the several Attorneys practising in the same, shall, and they are hereby directed and required to deliver up to the aforesaid *Edmund Porteus*, Clerk of the said County, their several and respective Docketts for the aforesaid Courts of *June*, *August* and *November* last, by the said Clerk, or his sworn Deputy, made out and delivered

The Chief Justice, &c. of Charles County to deliver to Clerk their Docketts.