

Day of *September*, in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and four, the several and respective Commissioners of the several and respective County Courts within this Province, at their several and respective County Courts, to be held for their said Counties, upon Examination had before them of the public Charges of their several and respective Counties, and Allowances by them made of the same, are impowered to levy and raise Tobacco for Payment and Satisfaction of the several and respective County Charges, and the Sheriff's Salary for Collection thereof, by an equal Assessment of the taxable Persons of the said several Counties ;

*It is hereby Declared and 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 said County Commissioners or Magistrates, nor any of them, shall construe or explain the Words *Public Charges of their respective Counties*, mentioned in the said recited Act, which they are impowered to levy and raise Tobacco for, to extend to any other Purposes than the ordinary, usual and necessary Charges annually arising in their said several and respective Counties.

Construction of the Words public Charges, &c.

And whereas it may frequently be necessary to make Repairs to Court-Houses, Prisons and Bridges, within the several and respective Counties of this Province, as well as to erect and build new and convenient Bridges for the common Benefit and Advantage of the Inhabitants ;

*Be it Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid,* That it shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the said several and respective Counties, to levy and raise upon the taxable Inhabitants within their said several Counties, for the making, compleating and finishing the necessary small Repairs to Court-Houses, Prisons and Bridges, and for the erecting and building new and convenient Bridges when and as often as Occasion shall require, any Quantity or Quantities of Tobacco not exceeding the Sum of Ten thousand Pounds of Tobacco at any one Time, for the full and compleat repairing of any one County Court-House, and not exceeding the Sum of Six thousand Pounds of Tobacco at any one Time, for the full and necessary Repairs for any one County Prison, and not exceeding the Sum of Eight thousand Pounds of Tobacco at any one Time, for the full and compleat repairing of any one Bridge, and not exceeding the Sum of Twenty thousand Pounds of Tobacco for the erecting and building of any one new Bridge in any one County whatsoever ; but that in all and every Case where any larger Sum or Sums of Tobacco, than what are herein before limited and expressed, shall or may be adjudged necessary and requisite by the said several and respective County Justices, to and for any the Uses and Purposes aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for the said several and respective County Justices, nor any of them, to levy or raise any such larger Sum or Sums of Tobacco to adjudged necessary or requisite as aforesaid, upon the taxable Inhabitants of their said several Counties, without having first had and obtained Leave or Licent for their so doing from the General Assembly of this Province for the Time being.

County Courts Power limited in levying Tobacco for the necessary Charges of their Counties;

*Provided always,* That it shall and may be lawful for the several and respective Inhabitants to pay and discharge the said several and respective Sums of Tobacco, so to be levied and raised to and for the Uses aforesaid, in Current Money, in the same Manner as they are enabled to pay and discharge the Public or County Levy.

Tobacco may be discharged with Money.

This Act to continue for three Years, and to the End of the next Session of Assembly which shall happen after the Expiration of three Years.

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