

An Act enabling the Commissioners of *Charles-Town* in *Cecil* County, to build an Inspection-House in the said Town.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the Commissioners for *Charles-Town* in *Cecil* County, have, by their humble Petition to this General Assembly, represented and set forth, That by an Act of Assembly, passed at a Sessions of Assembly held at the City of *Annapolis* on the Sixteenth Day of *May*, Seventeen hundred forty and seven, an Act passed entituled, *An Act for amending the Staple of Tobacco, for preventing Frauds in his Majesty's Customs, and for the Limitation of Officers Fees;* And whereas it is by the said Act directed, That one of the Ware or Inspecting Houses for the County aforesaid, should be erected and built at *Charles Town* aforesaid; And whereas it is by the said Law enacted, That in Case the Proprietors or Owners of Land will not build the inspecting Houses where they shall be fixed, that then the Justices of the County shall proceed to let a Value on one Acre, or half an Acre of such Land, and any other Person, or such Justices, paying the Owner the Value of such Land so set aforesaid, and building thereon such House, and performing every other Requisite required by the Act aforesaid, shall have an absolute Estate in Fee Simple to such Acre or half Acre of Land, and in Case the said Justices are obliged to build, they are by the said Act empowered to apply to the Commissioners or Trustees for emitting Bills of Credit, for any Sum not exceeding One hundred Pounds Current Money, to enable them to carry on and compleat the said Building. And the said Commissioners further represent to this General Assembly, that the Inspection-House at *Charles Town* can only be situated on the public Ground, laid out and allotted for the public Use and Benefit of the Inhabitants and Proprietors of the said Town, and which, by a Law now in Force, cannot be disposed of or conveyed: That the said inspecting House must stand contiguous to a large Wharf, already built at the said public Expence, and one half of an Acre of said Land in Fee Simple is of great Value, and would be of infinite Prejudice to the Community of the said Town, if any such Title of their said public Ground were granted to any Person or Persons whatsoever, therefore the Commissioners for *Charles-Town* aforesaid, farther pray, that soasmuch as the public Stock of the said Town is at present exhausted, by building the aforesaid Wharf, and a large public Granary, that the said Commissioners, or those for the Time being, or the major Part of them, may be empowered, in like Manner as the Justices of each respective County are empowered by the said Act, to draw from the said Trustees of the Loan-Office, a Sum, in Bills of Credit, sufficient to build the said inspecting House only, the Ground and Wharf already provided; and that the said Commissioners, or those for the Time being, may receive such Rent as is appointed by the said Act to be paid to the Justices aforesaid, and to repay the same to the said Trustees, in the same Manner as the said Justices by the said Act are required and directed, and that when the said Sum shall be repayed into the Loan-Office, that then the Rents and Profits arising from the same, shall be paid to the Commissioners of the said Town for the Time being, and be by them applied to the Benefit of the Public of the said Town only, and to be accounted for by the said Commissioners as is directed by other Acts relating to the said Town. All which are thought by this General Assembly to be just and reasonable;

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 Commissioners of Charles-town for the Time being, or the major