

An Act for destroying Wolves in *Frederick County*.

WHEREAS it appears to this General Assembly, that Wolves are very numerous and mischievous in *Frederick County*, and that they destroy great Numbers of Sheep, Hogs, and Cattle; and therefore, if not timely prevented, will become so numerous as not only to infest that County, but by that Means all the Province. It is therefore prayed that it may be Enacted:

Preamble.

And be it 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 when and as often as any credible white Person or Persons shall bring before any Justice of the Peace within *Frederick County* the Head or Heads of any Wolf or Wolves, and make Oath on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God (or Affirmation if a Quaker), that the Wolf or Wolves, of which he, she, or they produces the Head or Heads, was or were actually killed (or caught and killed as the Case shall happen) within the Limits of the aforesaid *Frederick County*, within three Days next before the producing the same to such Justice; that then such Justice shall, and he is hereby obliged and directed to give such Person or Persons, producing such Wolves Head or Heads, a Certificate for such Head or Heads so produced and proved as aforesaid; and in such Certificate to mention the Oath or Affirmation taken, and therein distinguish which, or how many of the Heads, was the Heads of the old or young Wolves. And every Justice, that shall have any Wolves Head or Heads brought before him by any Person as aforesaid, shall be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to judge of the Age of the said Wolf or Wolves, of which the Head or Heads is brought before him; and if such Justice shall believe the Age of such Wolf or Wolves to exceed three Months, that then he shall distinguish it in his Certificate by the Words *Old Wolf*, or *Wolves*; but if he shall believe the said Wolf or Wolves to be under the Age of three Months, that then he shall distinguish the same in his Certificate by the Words *Young Wolf*, or *Wolves*: And that every Justice, to whom any Wolf's Head is brought, and by whom a Certificate shall be given as aforesaid, such Justice is hereby obliged and directed immediately to cut off the Ears, and take out the Tongue, off and from the Head or Heads of such Wolf or Wolves, to prevent such Head or Heads from being a second Time carried before a Justice in order to obtain a Certificate.

Justices to give Certificates to Persons bringing the Heads of Wolves.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Person or Persons, who shall produce any Certificate as aforesaid to the Justices of the aforesaid *Frederick County*, in *November Court* yearly, shall, for every old Wolf's Head, be allowed the Sum of Twenty Shillings; and for every young Wolf's Head, the Sum of Fifteen Shillings, Current Money; to be by the Justices aforesaid assessed and levied in the County Levy, yearly and every Year during the Continuance of this Act, together with the Sheriff's Salary for collecting the same; and be paid by the Sheriff to such Person or Persons as shall be intitled to the same as aforesaid.

Reward for killing Wolves.

And be it likewise Enacted, That so much of an Act of Assembly of this Province entituled, *An Act for killing of Wolves, Crows, and Squirrels*, made at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of *Annapolis* the twenty-seventh Day of *October*, One thousand seven hundred and thirteen, and the Supplementary Act thereto, so far as relates to the making an Allowance for any Wolf's Head, and that may thereby in any Manner affect

Part of an Act repealed.