

## *Acts of Assembly passed in May, 1756.*

within this Province, he shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds Current Money; to be recovered in any Court of Record, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no *Essoin*, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one *Imparance* shall be allowed: And any Servant or Apprentice of such Printer, who shall be of the said Offence convicted, before two or more Justices of the Peace of the County where the same shall be committed, shall receive corporal Punishment by whipping not exceeding thirty-nine Stripes, by the said Justices to be adjudged.

Bills to be printed in the Presence of the Commissioners.

VII. *BE it also Enacted*, That the Printer of the said blank Bills shall not, by himself, Servants, or any other Person by him employed, presume to Stamp the same Bills, or any of them, but in the Presence of one or more of the Commissioners or Trustees of the Loan Office of this Province, who are hereby required and directed to be present. And when all the said Bills shall be printed and stamped, the Stamps and Flowers by which such Impression may be made, shall be delivered by the Printer to the Commissioners of the Loan-Office, under the Penalty of Five Hundred Pounds Current Money; to be recovered as aforesaid; and the said Commissioners are hereby directed and required to receive the said Stamps and Flowers into their Possession, and the same safely keep in the Office aforesaid, under the Penalty of Five Hundred Pounds Current Money; to be recovered as aforesaid.

Stamps, &c. to be delivered to, and kept by the Commissioners, under Penalties.

Felony to counterfeit Bills, &c.

VIII. *AND be it further Enacted*, That any Person or Persons, who shall counterfeit any of the said Bills of Credit, made current by this Act, or shall alter the Sum expressed in any of the said Bills, and his, her or their Aiders or Abettors, or who shall utter or offer, or cause to be uttered or offered, in Payment, any such counterfeit or altered Bill or Bills, knowing the same to be counterfeit or altered, and shall be thereof convicted by due Course of Law, or stand mute, or peremptorily challenge above the Number of Twenty of the Pannel, shall suffer Death as a Felon or Felons, without Benefit of Clergy. And all Magistrates and others, into whose Hands any counterfeited Bills may happen to come, shall forthwith deliver the same to one of the Commissioners or Trustees, who shall cause the Name of those that delivered them, and of the Persons from whom they were taken, to be endorsed on the Back thereof; which Bills shall be safely kept in the said Office, and be forth coming when there may be Occasion thereof.

Counterfeit Bills to be endorsed and delivered to the Commissioners.

Bond to be given by the Commissioners.

IX. *AND be it further Enacted*, That the said Commissioners or Trustees, before they enter upon the Execution of their said Trust, each of them shall enter into Bond, with sufficient Sureties, jointly and severally, to one of the Provincial Treasurers, for the Time being, in the Penalty of Two Thousand Pounds Sterling, payable to the Lord Proprietary, conditioned for the Observance and faithful Discharge of the Trust hereby reposed in them. And that the said Treasurer shall cause the said Bonds to be proved by the Witnesses thereto before one Provincial Justice, who shall endorse the Probate of the same Witnesses on the Back thereof; and also by an Order under his Hand on the Back of the same Bond, require the Clerk of the Provincial Court immediately to record, among the Land-Records of his Office, the said Bond, Probate and Order; and the said Clerk shall immediately, after the recording aforesaid, deliver the Original to the Register of the Chancery Court, to be by him safely kept in the Chancery Office; and an attested Copy of the said Bond and Probate from the said Provincial Records, shall be as good Evidence in Law to maintain an Action of Debt for the Breach of the Condition thereof, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the said Bond or Bonds were actually produced and proved in Court. And shall also take the following Oath, before some Provincial Justice (who is hereby impowered and required to administer the same), to wit, "I A. B. do swear, that I will, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge, faithfully, impartially, and truly demean myself, in the Discharge of the Trust committed to me, by an Act of General Assembly of this Province, entitled, An Act for granting a Supply of Forty Thousand Pounds for his Majesty's Service, and striking Thirty-four Thousand and Fifteen Pounds six Shillings thereof, in Bills of Credit, and raising a Fund for sinking the same, according to the Purport and Tenor of the same Act, so that none may be prejudiced by my Consent, Privy, or Procurement: So help me God."

To be proved and recorded.

Commissioners Oath.

Directions to be given about printing the Bills; and how they are to be kept, &c.

X. *AND be it further Enacted*, That the said Commissioners or Trustees, after they are so qualified, shall proceed to give Directions for printing the same Bills of Credit, according to the Directions of this Act, and after the same are so printed, shall sign and number the same Bills as is hereby directed; and the same so signed shall keep and deposite in one strong Iron-Chest, with three strong, substantial and different Locks, and that each Commissioner or Trustee shall keep a Key, to the End that no Bills of Credit, which shall be signed, be taken out or disposed of, but by or in the Presence of all the Commissioners or Trustees; which Chest shall be by them kept in the Repository built for the present Paper-Currency.

Accounts to be kept by the Commissioners of Bills issued; and to be inspected by a Committee.

XI. *AND be it further Enacted*, That the said Commissioners or Trustees, for the Time being, shall keep true, separate, and distinct Accounts, as well of the Bills which they shall sign and issue, as of the Money and Bills which they shall receive and pay, pursuant to this Act; which several Accounts a Committee of both Houses of Assembly shall be appointed every Session to inspect and examine; and which Committee shall also inspect and examine the Proceedings of the said Commissioners or Trustees, who are hereby required and obliged to lay a full and fair State of their Proceedings before such Committee, to the End they may be satisfied that the Sums for which Bills of Credit are to be issued, pursuant to this Act, are not exceeded, and may be acquainted, from Time to Time, with the State of the whole Transactions and Affairs relating to the said Office, and of the Management and Behaviour of the said Commissioners or Trustees; which Committee shall every Session of Assembly, report to the General Assembly the State and Condition of the said Office, and the Conduct and Behaviour of the said Commissioners or Trustees, to the End that any Corruption or Mismanagement may be timely guarded against and prevented.

Clerk to keep Accounts.

His Salary.

XII. *AND be it further Enacted*, That the Clerk for the Time being to the Commissioners or Trustees aforesaid, shall keep the Books of Accounts of all their Transactions in Virtue of this Act: For which and for every other Service incident to his Office, he shall have a Salary of Twenty Pounds Current Money for the first Year, and at the Rate of Ten Pounds for every Year afterwards, 'til the said Sum of Thirty-four Thousand and Fifteen Pounds six Shillings, be sunk and destroyed as herein directed, so long as he shall continue