

C H A P. III.  
 Case will admit of, or by Bill filed on the Equity-Side of the said County Court, as to the Plaintiffs in such Suits or Actions shall seem meet; and for that Purpose, the said County Court, is hereby also authorised and impowered, as a Court of Equity, to hold Plea of such Sums so as aforesaid, heretofore sued or prosecuted to any Amount, not exceeding the Jurisdiction of the Law-Side thereof; and that such Hearing and Determination, either in a summary Manner, or in Equity, as aforesaid, and all Entries and Records thereof, and all Executions and Process thereon, shall be as good, valid, and effectual, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, as if the same had been heard, adjudged, determined, and entered in usual Form; any Law, Usage, or Custom to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Entries and Executions thereon to be valid.

VIII. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That the Continuance of all such Causes, as were not determined in the said Court, at *March* Court last, shall and may, by and with the Consent and Direction of the Justices of the said County, in Court sitting, be entered upon Record, from *March* Court aforesaid, as the Case shall happen, from Court to Court, until *March* Court now next ensuing, for the said County inclusive, and no longer, except in Cases where Evidence may be wanting, beyond Sea, at the Direction of the said Court; any Law, Usage, or Custom, to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Causes not determined at *March* Court last, may with the Consent of the Justices be entered and continued from that Time.

IX. Provided always, That nothing herein before contained, shall extend, or be construed to extend, to supply or make good any other Defect or Irregularity, than what hath necessarily followed from the Accident of the Fire aforesaid. *Proviso.*

C H A P. IV.

An ACT for the Preservation of the Breed of Fish.

WHEREAS it is found by Experience, that large Quantities of young Fish, unfit for Use, have been for many Years past killed and destroyed by Wears, Dams, Pots, and other Devices, formed and erected in the Rivers of *Susquehannah* and *Patuxent*, for the taking of Fish, whereby great Quantities of Fish, which were formerly to be found and taken in said Rivers, and other Rivers in this Province, are much diminished, to the great Damage and Injury of the Public; for Remedy whereof;

Preamble.

II. 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 if any Person or Persons whatsoever, from and after the End of this Session of Assembly, shall build, set up, repair, or maintain, or shall be aiding, assisting, or abetting in building, setting up, repairing, or maintaining any such Wears, Fishing-Dams, Pots, or any other Devices whatsoever, for the taking of Fish within the Rivers aforesaid, by which the Fish may be obstructed from going up, or coming down the said Rivers, or shall take or destroy any kind of Fish whatsoever, in any such Wear, Fishing-Dam, Pot, or other Device aforesaid, every such Person or Persons, so offending, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, being legally convicted thereof, by the Oath of one or more credible Witness or Witnesses, or by his or their Confession, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds Current Money for every such Offence, one Moiety of which Sum, so forfeited, to be paid to the Informer or Prosecutor, and the other Moiety thereof, to be paid to the Sheriff of the County where the Recovery shall be had, to be by him paid and accounted for, to the Justices of the several County Courts, respectively, and by them applied towards clearing the Navigation of the said Rivers; to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, with full Costs of Suit, in any

Persons not to build or repair Wears, &c. for destroying Fish.

Penalty how to be recovered and applied.