

C. H. A. P. XXXI. *by myself or by any other, to my Knowledge or with my Consent, to any Person or Persons whatsoever, for or concerning the procuring or obtaining the Benefice or Living of any Parish, nor will at any Time hereafter perform or satisfy any such Kind of Payment, Contract or Promise, made by any other without my Knowledge or Consent; So help me God through JESUS CHRIST.*

Ministers neglecting to take the Oaths, or concerned in any simoniacal Contract, rendered incapable of holding a Benefice.

II. *And be it further enacted, That in Case any Minister shall, directly or indirectly, give any Sum of Money, Reward, Gift, Profit or Benefit, or shall, directly or indirectly, make or give any Agreement, Promise, Grant, Bond or other Assurance, for the paying or giving any Sum of Money, Reward, Gift, Profit or Benefit, for procuring his Presentation, Induction or Appointment, to his Benefice, or shall wilfully omit or neglect to take all and every the Oaths aforesaid, and in the Manner aforesaid, or in Case any Minister shall in any Manner be concerned in any Simoniacal Contract, such Minister shall thereupon and from thenceforth be adjudged a disabled Person in Law to have or hold the same, or any other Benefice or Church Living within this Province. And if any Minister shall be presented, inducted or appointed, to any Benefice or Church Living in this Province, by or through the Means of any Simoniacal Contract or Agreement, to which he shall not be privy, such Minister shall thereupon and from thenceforth be adjudged a disabled Person in Law to have or hold the same Benefice or Church Living.*

Proviso.

III. *Provided always, That no Lease, really, bona fide, and for good and valuable Consideration, made by any Person Simoniacally promoted or concerned in any Simoniacal Contract, to any Tenant or Person, not being privy to, or having Notice of such Simony, shall be impeached or avoided for, or by Reason of such Simony.*

Penalty in Case any Minister shall not keep Residence in his Parish, &c.

IV. *And be it further enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That in Case any Minister, presented, inducted or appointed, or that shall be presented, inducted or appointed, to any Benefice, shall not keep Residence in his Parish, but wilfully absent himself by the Space of One Month together, or by the Space of Two Months, to be at several Times in any one Year, and make his Residence or Abiding in any other Place or Places, out of his Parish by such Time, he shall forfeit for such Default Ten Pounds Sterling Money, to be recovered in any Court of Record within this Province, by Action of Debt, Indictment or Information, and paid to the Vestry and Churchwardens of the Parish where such Default shall happen, to and for the Use of the same Parish.*

A beneficed Minister neglecting to officiate, or guilty of Immorality, may be suspended or deprived by the Governor and Commissioners;

V. *And be it enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That upon Complaint, in Writing, made to the Governor or Commander in Chief and Council, for the Time being, by the Majority of any Vestry and Churchwardens, that the beneficed Minister or Incumbent of the Parish where the Complainants reside, hath wilfully neglected to officiate therein, or hath been guilty of any notorious or scandalous Immorality, it shall and may be lawful for the Governor or Commander in Chief, for the Time being, by and with the Advice of the Council aforesaid, as soon as conveniently may be, to appoint by Commission Three Ministers inducted into, and in the actual Possession of Benefices, and Three Laymen of the Church of England, and for the said Governor or Commander in Chief, for the Time being, such Governor or Commander in Chief being of the Church of England, or if such Governor or Commander in Chief, for the Time being, be not of the Church of England, then for the first Member of his Lordship's honourable Council, for the Time being, who shall be a Member of the Church of England, together with the said Commissioners, to make*