

ROBERT EDEN, Esq; GOVERNOR.

1773.

C H A P. V. C H A P. V, VI.

An ACT to prevent counterfeiting the Paper Money of other Colonies.

WHEREAS the Want of a sufficient Quantity of circulating Specie; to answer the Purposes of Commerce, or the Exigencies of Government, hath induced this and most others of the British Colonies in America to circulate certain Paper Notes, as the Representative of Specie, to pass in Payments for limited Periods, when the Redemption is provided for, the counterfeiting of which is usually made a Felony in the respective Governments where they are emitted; but it is supposed, that sundry evil minded Persons have lately established Presses in some of the Colonies, for preparing Counterfeits of the Paper of others, and by that Means such forged Paper is thrown into Circulation with greater Facility and Security to the Authors thereof; and it being judged reasonable, that neighbouring Countries, having Intercourse in Trade, should provide, so far as in them lies, against the debasing of their Medium of Commerce:

II. Be it therefore enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That if any Person or Persons shall, within this Province, prepare, engrave, stamp, or print, or cause or procure to be prepared, engraved, stamped, or printed, the counterfeit Resemblance of any Paper Money, which now is, or hereafter may be, circulated in Payments by legislative Authority, in any British Colony or Plantation in America, with Intention that such counterfeit Paper shall be passed in Payments, whether the same be so passed or not; or if any Person or Persons shall, in this Province, pay, or tender in Payment, any such counterfeit Money, knowing the same to be forged or counterfeited, altered or erased, every such Person, being lawfully convicted, shall be adjudged a Felon, and shall suffer Death without Benefit of Clergy.

Persons within this Province counterfeiting, &c. the Paper Money of any of the British Colonies in America, to be adjudged Felons and suffer Death.

III. And be it further enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall continue and be in Force, from and after the passing thereof, for and during the Term of Five Years, and to the End of the next Session of Assembly which shall happen after the End of the said Five Years.

Continuance.

C H A P. VI.

An ACT to enable the Commissioners for emitting Bills of Credit to provide Stationary for the Use of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.

BE it enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That the Commissioners for emitting Bills of Credit for the Time being shall, and they are hereby empowered to remit to some Merchant in London the Sum of Thirty Pounds Sterling, with Orders to lay out the same (deducting Commission and Charges) in such Parchment, Paper, Ink Powder, and Quills, as the said Commissioners shall direct, any Law to the Contrary notwithstanding: Which Stationary Ware shall be purchased and shipped on the Risque of the Publick of this Province, and shall, on its Arrival,

Commissioners for emitting Bills of Credit to remit £. 30 Sterling, to be laid out in Stationary, for the Use of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly.