

Session of Assembly which shall happen after the End of the said Twenty-one Years. C H A P. XVII, XVIII.

An ACT for the Relief of the Poor in Saint Mary's County.

WHEREAS the Necessity, Number, and continual Increase of the Poor within said County, is very great, and exceedingly burthensome, which might be greatly lessened by a due Regulation and Employment of them : Preamble.

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 there shall be an Alms and Work-House erected, built, and set up, in Saint Mary's County, at a convenient Place therein, at the general Charge and Expence of the said County of Saint Mary's; and that the Justices of the said County Court, for the Time being, shall, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to assess and levy, on the taxable Inhabitants of said County, at the Time of laying their County Levy, a Quantity not exceeding Fifteen Pounds of Tobacco by the Poll, on each and every the taxable Inhabitants of their said County, in each of the Years of our Lord Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-three, Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-four, and Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-five, together with the Sheriff's Salary of Five per Cent. for collecting the same; which said Assessments, so as aforesaid to be made and levied, shall be collected by the Sheriff of the said County, from the several taxable Persons who shall reside within the same, in the same Manner as the Public and County Levies are collected; and the said Tobacco, when so as aforesaid collected, shall be paid by such Sheriff, to such Trustees for the Poor, or the major Part of them, as are by this Act appointed; who are hereby authorized and required to receive and apply the same to the Uses and Purposes herein after directed. An Alms and Work-House to be erected in St. Mary's County. Justices to levy 15 lb. of Tobacco per Poll, in 1773, 1774, and 1775, to be paid to the Trustees, &c.

III. Provided always, and be it enacted, That it shall and may be lawful, for the several and respective taxable Inhabitants, within the said County, to pay and discharge the said several Assessments, in Money, in the same Manner as they are enabled to pay and discharge the Public or County Levy. Proviso.

IV. And be it further enacted, That, for the Time being, the Five several Persons hereafter named be and are hereby nominated, appointed, and named, Trustees for the Poor within the said County, and are empowered with full and sufficient Authority to discharge the several Offices, Duties and Trusts, reposed in and required of them by this Act: That is to say, Col. George Plater, Col. Abraham Barnes, Major Zachariah Bond, Mr. John Reeder, and Mr. James Jordan. The which Persons, so nominated, appointed, authorized, and named, for the County as aforesaid, or the major Part of them, in case of the Death or Absence of any, are hereby required, with all convenient Speed, to meet at such Places, within their County, as to them shall seem meet, to qualify themselves for the Office of Trustees for the Poor of their County; which they are to do, by taking the several Oaths appointed by Law to be taken to the Government, signing the Oath of Abjuration, and repeating and signing the Test, and also taking the following Oath, to wit. I, A. B. do swear, That I will duly and faithfully discharge the Duties and Trusts committed Their Oath.