

An ACT for the Relief of the Poor in Talbot 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.  
An Alms & Work-House to be erected in Talbot County.

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 Talbot County, at a convenient Place therein, at the general Charge and Expence of the said County; 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-four, Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-five, and Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-six, together with the Sheriff's Salary of Five per Cent, for collecting the same; which said Assessments, 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 hereinafter directed.

Justices to levy 15lb. Tobacco per Poll, in 1774, 1775, & 1776, 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 appointed 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, the Honourable William Hayward, Esq; Mr. Henry Holliday, Doctor Jesse Allen, Mr. William Hindman, and Mr. James Benson; the which Persons; or the major Part of them, in Case of the Death or Absence of any of them, are hereby required with all convenient Speed to meet at such Place 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 do swear, That I will duly and faithfully discharge the Duties and Trusts committed to me as a Trustee for the Poor for Talbot County; by an Act of Assembly, entitled, An Act for the Relief of the Poor in Talbot County, according to the best of my Skill and Knowledge. So help me GOD." The which Oath is to be administered by any of the Four Persons last named

Trustees appointed.

Their Oath.

for