

An A C T to prevent disaffected emigrants from settling in this state, and to detect and punish the disaffected, and to prevent any correspondence or trade with the enemy, and to punish certain misdemeanors.

BE it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That no person who hath, or shall hereafter voluntarily go within the enemy's lines, without the permission of the governor and the council in writing, and no citizen or inhabitant of any of the United States, who hath not taken the oath of allegiance to the state in which he resided, shall ever hereafter come to this state; and no person, though he may have taken the oath of allegiance to the state in which he resided, shall reside in this state without the permission of the governor and the council in writing; and they are requested not to grant such person their permission, unless fully satisfied that such person hath taken the oath of allegiance to the state in which he resided, and is zealously attached to the liberties and independence of the United States, and hath uniformly supported that general character in the state wherein he resided; and if any person, who hath or shall hereafter voluntarily go within the enemy's lines without leave as aforesaid, or not having taken the oath of allegiance as aforesaid, shall come into this state, or if any person shall presume to settle in this state, contrary to this act, without permission as aforesaid, any such person may be apprehended by warrant from any justice of the peace, lieutenant, or militia field officer, of any county, and carried before the governor and council, who may order such person to depart from this state within a limited time, assigning his route, or commit him to close gaol; and if such person shall not depart within the time limited, or make any unnecessary deviation from the route assigned, or shall again come into this state, any lieutenant, justice of the peace, or militia field officer, may commit such offender to close gaol, there to remain, until he shall give sufficient security, in five hundred pounds current money, for his departing from this state, within the time and by the road to be appointed, and not coming again into this state; and the governor and the council, or any judge of the general court, or any two justices of the court of the county where such person shall be imprisoned, may take such security, by bond or recognizance to this state, and appoint the time and road for the departure of such person.

Persons going into the enemy's lines not to return, &c.

II. And, Whereas divers persons of the neighbouring states have come into this, and continued therein for a considerable space of time, without having taken the oath of allegiance and support to this state, or giving any other criterion whether they consider themselves as subjects of this state, or design only a temporary residence therein:

III. Be it enacted, That every male person above eighteen years of age, who hath already come into, and remains in, this state, from any of the United States, shall, on or before the first day of September next, appear before some justice of the peace of the county in which he may reside, and before such justice take and subscribe the oath or affirmation of fidelity and support to this state, as prescribed by the act

Persons coming from other states to take the oath to this, &c.