

into this Province; and of Irish Papists, by Way of Pennsylvania, or the Government of New-Castle, Kent, and Suffex, or Delaware;

This House doth not agree thereto.

Ordered, That the Bill entituled, *An Act for preventing the Importation of German and French Papists, &c.* be printed among the Proceedings of this House this Session; which Bill was in the following Words, *viz.*

An Act for preventing the Importation of German and French Papists, and Popish Priests and Jesuits, into this Province; and of Irish Papists by Way of Pennsylvania, or the Government of New-Castle, Kent, and Suffex, or Delaware.

WHEREAS it appears to this General Assembly, that many *German* and *French* Papists, and several Popish Priests, and Jesuits, have been lately imported into this Province, who have immediately resorted to the Western Frontiers thereof, and there settled for the Convenience of taking up vacant Lands, which are at this Time scarcely elsewhere to be had; that from their Vicinity to the Fortifications which the *French* have lately presumed to erect on the River *Ohio*, it is too probable they will not only give his Majesty's Enemies constant secret Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs within this Province, and privately assist them all in their Power, but in Case of an Attack upon this Part of his Majesty's Dominions, would doubtless turn their Force, in Conjunction with the *French* and their savage Allies, against his loyal Protestant Subjects.

AND whereas the insatiable Desire of universal Conversion to their own religious Opinions, calculated for the Establishment and Support of Tyranny and Slavery, both Ecclesiastical and Civil, must excite the constant unwearied Endeavours of the said Popish Priests, and Jesuits, to accomplish their most impious Designs; all which might endanger the Subversion of the happy Constitution of the Government of this Province, and the Loss of the Liberties and Properties of the good Protestant People thereof:

*BE it therefore Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That all Masters of Ships and Vessels, and Others, importing German or French Passengers, or Servants, into this Province, shall bring their Vessels off, and make their Entry, at the Port and City of Annapolis, and not elsewhere, and shall, at the Time of such Entry, pay unto the Naval-Officer of the said Port, for the Time being, the Sum of Five Pounds Current Money, per Poll, for every German or French Papist (Priests excepted), and Two hundred Pounds for every Popish Priest, or Jesuit, on Penalty and Forfeiture of Twenty Pounds Current Money, for every German or French Papist (Priests excepted), and Four hundred Pounds for every such Priest, or Jesuit, as aforesaid, that shall be by him or them concealed, at the Time of his or their Entry, as aforesaid, One half of the said Fines to be applied to the replacing the Sum of Six thousand Pounds, granted for his Majesty's Service, on the present intended Expedition against the *French*, and their Allies on this Continent, by an Act entituled, *An Act for his Majesty's Service*, and the other half thereof to the Informer, or him or them that shall sue for the same; to be recovered in any Court of Record within this Province, that shall have Jurisdiction thereof, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoin, Protection, or Wager of Law shall be allowed.*

AND be it further Enacted, That the said Naval-Officer shall, and he is hereby required to procure a Translation of the Oaths appointed by Act of Assembly, to be taken to the Government, and the Test, into the German and French Languages, and the same keep in his Office, which Oath, so translated, shall be administered to every German or French Passenger, or Servant, so to be imported, except Children under the Age of fourteen Years (to be adjudged at the Discretion of the Naval-Officer), by the said Naval-Officer, provided he understands the German or French Languages, or either of them, as the Case may require, and if he does not, by some Protestant Person to be by him appointed, who can speak the English and German or French Language, as the Case may require, in Presence of the said Naval-Officer, the said Person, so to be appointed, having first taken the several Oaths, as aforesaid, to be administered by the said Naval-Officer; and an Oath, well and truly to administer the same to the several Passengers, and Servants, imported as aforesaid, and signed the Oath of Abjuration and the Test; and that each Passenger, or Servant, so imported as aforesaid, who shall take the said Oaths, shall, in the Presence of the said Naval-Officer, sign the Oath of Abjuration and the Test, to be by him kept as aforesaid, and all and every such German and French Passengers, or Servants, who shall refuse to take the Oaths, and sign the Oath and Test, as aforesaid, shall be, and they are hereby deemed and declared Papists, within the Intent and Meaning of this Act, for whom the Importer or Importers shall be obliged to pay the Duty aforesaid.

AND