

the Passage of that Bill, even derogatory of their own and the Peoples just Rights, *Do Resolve*, That being urged by the dangerous Situation of Affairs, and the miserable Distress of the back Inhabitants of this Province, who have been exposed to the Incurfions and most horrid Cruelty of barbarous Savages, and by the unparliamentary Proceedings of the Upper House, they have been put under the Necessity of going into many Irregularities in their Modes of Proceeding, and even departing from their ancient and undoubted Rights and Privileges, and that therefore no Irregularity of Proceeding, Concession, or Condescension whatsoever, had or made in respect of that Bill, or any other of the Proceedings of this Session, ought hereafter, by any Branch of the Legislature, to be drawn into or insisted upon as a Precedent.

Was ordered to be entered on the Journal.

*Ordered*, That the Bill to prevent the Growth of Popery, sent down from the Upper House, with the Amendments proposed by the Lower House, be printed with the Votes and Proceedings.

*Ordered*, That Col. *Tilghman* and Mr. *Carroll* do acquaint the Governor, That no public Business is now before this House to transact.

*The House adjourns till II of the Clock Afternoon.*

*Post-Meridiem.* The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

In Pursuance of the Order of the House, the following Bill is here inserted, *viz.*

*An Act to prevent the Growth of Popery within this Province.*

WHEREAS, under the present unhappy Circumstances of this Province, with Respect to an *Indian* War, and the dreadful Apprehensions of an Invasion by a foreign Enemy, in Conjunction with the Savages, with Intent to destroy the Liberties we enjoy under our present most happy Constitution in Church and State, it is thought necessary and expedient to take all reasonable and just Measures to prevent the Growth of Popery, and to lay the Popish Priests and Jesuits (those great Enemies to our Laws, Liberties and Religion), under some more severe Restraint than they have heretofore been; and whereas it is a Matter of Doubt, which of the Penal Laws heretofore made in the Kingdom of *England*, are extended and can be put in Execution against Popery within this Province; and in order to quiet the Minds of some of his Majesty's faithful Subjects, who may be under some Dread of the undue Influence of the Priests and Jesuits upon the Minds of thoughtless and ignorant Persons, it is humbly prayed that it may be enacted,

And be it Enacted, by the Right Honorable 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 if any Person or Persons whatsoever, within this Province, shall hereafter send, or cause to be sent, any Child or any other Person under his or their or any of their Government, beyond the Seas, out of the King's Obedience, to the Intent to enter into, or reside in, or repair to, any College, School, or other Seminary of Learning, of any Popish Order, Profession, or Calling, to be instructed, persuaded, or strengthened, in the Popish Religion, or in any Sort to profess the same, every such Person, so sending or causing to be sent any such Child or other Person, under his, their, or any of their Government, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Sterling, and be disabled from holding any Public Office in this Province hereafter; and every such Person, so passing or being sent beyond the Seas, out of the King's Obedience, and shall enter into, or reside in, any such College, School, or other Seminary of Learning, of any Popish Order, Profession, or Calling, and be there instructed and educated in the Popish Religion, shall, in respect of him or herself only, and not in respect of any of his or her Heirs, or Posterity, be disabled to inherit, purchase, take, have, or enjoy, any Profits, Hereditaments, Chattels, Debts, Legacies, or Sums of Money, by Virtue of any Devise, Bequest, Gift, Grant, Bargain and Sale, or other Conveyance or Donation whatsoever: And that all Estates, Terms, and other Interests whatsoever, to be made, suffered, or done, to the Use or behoof of any such Person, or upon any Trust or Confidence mediately or immediately to or for the Benefit or Relief of any such Person, shall be utterly void. Provided always, That if such Child or Person, being of the Age of Eighteen Years, or above, so passing or sent beyond the Seas as aforesaid, to such Intent as is beforementioned, shall, within Six Months next after his Arrival in this Province, become conformable and obedient unto the Laws and Ordinances of the Church of *England*, and go before some Provincial Justice, or some Justice of the Peace of the County where he shall arrive or reside, and take the several Oaths to the Government, appointed to be taken by Act of Assembly, and subscribe the Test and Oath of Abjuration, and shall continue in such Conformity and Obedience to all the Ordinances of the same Church, every such Child and Person, for and during such Time as he shall so continue in such Conformity and Obedience, shall be freed and discharged of and from all and every such Disability and Incapacity as before-mentioned.

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