

time to be appointed and authorized for that purpose of the County, Town, or Precinct where every particular offence in this present Act contained, shall happen at any time to be committed, and whereupon there is hereby a forfeiture, fine, or penalty imposed, shall from time to time distrain, and seise the goods and estate of every such person so offending as aforesayd against this present Act or any part therof, and sell the same or any part therof, for the full satisfaction of such forfeiture, fine, or penalty as aforesayd, restoring to the Party so offending, the Remainder or overplus of the sayd goods or estate, after such satisfaction so made as aforesayd.

This Act was passed by a Generall Assembly in *Maryland* in April 1649. and assented unto by the Lord *Baltimore* in 1650. and the intent of it being to prevent any disgusts between those of different judgements in Religion there, it was thought necessary to insert that clause in it concerning the *Virgin Mary*, of whom some, otherwise might perhaps speake reproachfully, to the offence of others. And in the time of the long Parliament when the differences between the Lord *Baltimore*, and Colonell *Samuel Matthews*, as Agent for the Colony of *Virginia* were depending before a Committee of that Parliament for the Navy, that Clause in the sayd Law concerning the *Virgin Mary*, was at that Committee objected as an exception against his Lordship; whereupon a worthy Member of the sayd Committee stood up and sayd, that he wondered that any such exception should be taken against his Lordship; for (sayes hee) doth not the Scripture say, that all Generations shall call her blessed? and the Committee insisted no more on that exception.