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proffits and perquisites due or belonging in England to the high Admirall of England shall be to the use and proffit of the said Admirall or (in vacancie of an Admirall) to the use of the Lord Proprietarie (except were the said proffits or perquisites or any of them are otherwise granted by Patent) This Act to continue till the end of the next Assembly

An Act For^{the} directing a County Court
Be it Enacted By the Lord Proprietarie of this Province by and with the advice and approbation of the Freemen of the same that all causes of appeal from inferiour Courts and all causes whatsoever civill determinable in any Court of common Law in England and all causes for recovery of Legacies and all causes matrimoniall (forasmuch as concerns the triall of covenants and contracts and the punishment of faults committed against the same) and all offences of incest attempting of another chastity defamation temerarious admision of Legacies clandestine marriage with out beanes thrice published or bond entered in the Court and all crimes and offences whatsoever (not extending to felony or treason by the Lawes of this Province) for which any certain punishment is appointed by the laws of this Province or by the common Law of England shall be heard and determined finally by and before the chiefe Justice of the Province for the time being or by and before such other Commis^r or Commis^s as the Lord Proprietarie of this Province or his Lieutenant Generall shall authorize to hear and determine the same Which said chiefe Justice shall or may appoint a Register for the recording of all matters pertaining to that office and the said chiefe Justice Commis^r or Commis^s for the time being and the said Register shall be a Court of Record and
Shall

Shall be called the County Court and the said Court shall
or may have use exercise and enjoy all or any the same
or the like powers priviledges authorities and Juris-
- dictions within this Province (in the causes aforesaid)
as any of the Kings Courts of Common Law in England
useth or may use and exercise within the Realm of
England (except were it is otherwise provided by any
Law of this Province) And until there be a Seal ap-
- pointed to this Court by the Lord Proprietary all mean-
- profess and Judiciaall Writts in all causes apper-
- taining to this Court shall be drawn and Signed by
the Register of this Court and Such Signature shall be
a sufficient warrant to the Chancellour or keeper of
the great Seal to put the great Seal thereto and they
shall issue in the name of the Lord Proprietarie with
the teste of the said Chief Justice or Chief Commis^r
and shall be directed to the parties themselves or to any
Witnesses or to the Sheriff of the Countie or to any other
officer named upon the writt and Such formes of pro-
- cess and proceeding upon bill plaint information Present
- ment or indictment shall be used and observed in
this Court as are most agreeable to the Laws of this
Province or otherwise to the formes used and observed
in the Courts of Common Law in England in the same
or the like causes as near as the Judge or Register may
well know them or otherwise such formes as the said
Chief Justice shall appoint or approve to be used
and observed (except were it is otherwise provided by
any Law of this Province) And all questions and
Demurers in Law in this Court shall be determined by
the said Chief Justice Commis^r or Commis^r And in
all pleas and matters civill or criminall (in this or any
other Court within the Province) the Lord Proprietarie
shall be allowed all the same and the like preroga-
tives and royall rights as are usually or of right
due or belonging to a Court Pallatine (Saving all-
ways the Soveraigne Dominion due to the King of
England) And all issues of fact in this Court shall
Be

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Be tried by the said chief Justice Com^{rs} or Com^{rs}
and the counsell sitting in Court or the Major part
of them if the defendan^t shall chuse to be tried
by the Court or otherwise by a Jury of Seven or more
freeholders of the County to be returned by the
Sheriff if the defendan^t shall chuse to be tried
by his Country And the Register of the saide
Court may at any time take a writt out of Chan:
= any returnable into this Court directed to the
= Sheriff to returne any five or more freemen
named upon the writt) for a grand enquest and
after the empanelling of the said enquest or of
any five of them the Court shall or may charge them
with an oath truly to enquire of and true pre-
= sentment to make of all offences and misdome-
= nors whats ever committed to their or any of their
knowledge or by vehement suspicion publique
same or by information of any partie upon oath
said or affirmed to be committed against the laws
of this Province which presentment delivered in to
the Court by the said enquest shall be an indictment of
any partie in any crime of felony or treason
(provided that such presentment or indictment
be made or found by a Grand enquest of twelve
Jurors at the least) upon which such partie pre-
= sented or Indicted may be put upon his tryall
in the pretoriall Court and likewise it shall be
a conviction of the partie presented of any other
crime whereof he is presented (the said crimes
of Felony or treason excepted) upon which such
partie may be sentenced for the said crime un-
= less the partie presented purge him or herself
thereof by such means as the Court shall appoint
the partie for his or her purgation
And every person lawfully served and warned
to be of the enquest as aforesaid and not appear-
ing upon call at the time and place prefixed in
the writt shall lose and forfeit such issues as shall
be mentioned in the writt for a penaltie of not
appearing