

ACTS.

At a Session of Assembly begun and held in the City of Annapolis, in the County of Ann Arundel, the 2^d Day of June, and ended the 3^d Day of July, in the 13th Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne, Queen of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc., Annoq. Domini 1714, were Enacted the Laws following.

John Hart, Esq., Governor.

An Act for Relieving the Inhabitants of this Province from Bacon some Aggrievances in the Prosecution of Suits at Law.

Whereas during the late long and expensive War, her Majesty's good Subjects of this Province have greatly suffered, any many of them have been utterly ruined, not only by Losses at Sea of their Tobaccos (which is their only Staple Manufacture) being taken by the Enemy, but also by the European Markets being shut up, by Reason of the Export to France and Spain in great Measure prohibited, so that very many honest and industrious Planters, her Majesty's Subjects here, by the very Charges of necessary Clothing and Tools for themselves and Families, are become vastly indebted; and no Prospect as yet appearing of any Means whereby they may extricate themselves out of their miserable and deplorable Circumstances, which are very much heightened and aggravated by their being sued and brought to Annapolis from the remotest Parts of this Province, to their manifest Oppression and Impoverishment: So that many of the good Inhabitants of this Province daily desert their Habitations, and remove themselves to Plantations and Colonies where they are far less Serviceable to her sacred Majesty, and her Revenue of Customs of Tobacco; which calls for some speedy and proper Remedy to be applied thereto, Wherefore this present General Assembly humbly Supplicate her most sacred Majesty, that it may be Enacted;

II. And be it Enacted, by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of her Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the End of this present Session of Assembly, all Persons whatsoever, residing, negotiating or trading to or within this Province, having any