

and it is the true intent and meaning of this Act that noe person or persons whatsoever as shall trade directly from England hither be Construed deemed reputed or taken as Foraigners but that all and every such persons so trading from England directly to this Province as aforesaid have free and equal Liberty in dealing with any Indian or other person for any Skins or Furr's whatsoever with the Inhabitants of this Province, or as they actually have, paying such Dutyes and Imposicōns as this Law hath Imposed upon the Inhabitants hereof as aforesaid and no more any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

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From  
1694-1702.  
Acts

An Act for the Punishment of Blasphemy Fornication and Adultery. Acts of 1694,

Be it Enacted by the King & Queens most Excellent Ma<sup>ty</sup>s by and with the Advice and Consent of this present Generall Assembly and the Authority of the same that from & after the Publicacōn hereof if any person or persons whatsoever Inhabiting or being within this Province shall blaspheme God (that is to say) curse him or deny our Saviour Jesus Christ to be the Son of God, or shall deny the Holy Trinity the Father Son and Holy Ghost or the Godhead of any of the said Three Persons or the Unity of the Godhead or shall utter any reproachfull speeches, words or language concerning the Holy Trinity or any the Three Persons thereof, for his her or their first offence shall be bored thro the tongue & fined to their sacred Ma<sup>ty</sup>s their heyres and Success<sup>rs</sup> the Summe of twenty pounds sterling to be levyed upon their goods and Chattels lands and Tenements (if any they have) but if such Offend<sup>r</sup> or Offend<sup>rs</sup> have not goods and Chattels lands and Tenements to the vallue aforesaid then such Offend<sup>r</sup> or Offend<sup>rs</sup> shall suffer six months Imprisonment without Bayle or mainprize and for every second offence whereof every such offend<sup>r</sup> or offend<sup>rs</sup> shal be legally convict he she or they so offending as aforesaid shall be stigmatized in the Forehead with the Letter (B) and be fined Forty pounds sterling to the use of their Ma<sup>ty</sup>s their heires & Success<sup>rs</sup> to be levyed upon their goods and Chattels lands and Tenements aforesaid, and in case he she or they so offending as aforesaid shall not have goods and Chattels lands and Tenements to the vallue aforesaid every such offend<sup>r</sup> or Offend<sup>rs</sup> shall suffer Imprisonment for the space of one whole year without Bayle or Mainprize as aforesaid. And for every third offence whereof every such Offend<sup>r</sup> or Offend<sup>rs</sup> shall be legally convict as aforesaid he she or they so offending shall suffer death with Confiscation of all his her or their goods and Chattels to their Ma<sup>ty</sup>s their heires and Successors And whereas sev<sup>r</sup>all persons negligent in the performance of their Christian duty doe to the high displeasure of God and to the Scandall of the true Christian Religion frequently comitt fornicacōn & adultery and in that state of sin openly remaine and continue in contempt of all those good & wholesome Laws heretofore made for the punish-

ch. 24  
(Repealed  
by 1700,  
ch. 8)