

Public Record Office, London. C. O. 5, Vol. 731, Maryland. From 1694-1702. Acts

ment of such wicked and lewd vices for preventing whereof for the future Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid that every person or persons comitting Fornication & being thereof convicted shall for every tyme so offending forfeite and pay the Summe of twenty shillings sterling or foure hundred pounds of Tobaccoe And that every person or persons comitting adultery and being thereof legally convict either by sufficient Evidence or confession of either party, such person or persons shall for every tyme so offending forfeite and pay the Summe of Forty shillings sterling or Eight hundred pounds of Tobaccoe to be levyed by way of Fyne on his her or their goods & chattels (if any they have) to the use of their Ma^{ty}s their heires and Success^{rs} and in case such Offend^r or Offend^{rs} therein shall not have goods & chattels sufficient to satisfye and pay such Fyne or Fynes as aforesaid then he she or they so offending shall receive such Corporall Punishment as the Justices of that Court shall thinke fitt not extending to life or member And whereas many Inhabitants of this Province of desolute life and Conversacōns entertaining in their houses women of ill names and Reputacōn being suspected of Incontinency or by other indirect wayes and meanes providing for the mainteynance of such women whose Company they so frequent Be it therefore also Enacted by the authority aforesaid that every person and persons who shall so harbour entertaine and provide for the mainteynance of such woman or women or frequent her or their Company, or the company of any other lewd women after publick admonition to avoide the same given by the Minister and Churchwarden with the Consent of the Vestry of the Parish or Parishes where such person or persons shall dwell, and in case there be noe Minister then by the Churchwardens of the same with the consent of the Vestry aforesaid shall forfeite & pay for every tyme it shall be proved that he she or they shall Cohabite together or frequent the Company of each other after such Admonition as aforesaid, as if he she or they had really been convicted of Fornicacōn and Adultery and undergoe such paines and penalties as against persons legally convicted of the said crimes by this Law is prescribed any other Law or Custom to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Acts of 1694, ch. 25 (Repealed by 1700, ch. 8)

An Act Concerning those Servants that have Bastards.

Whereas divers Women Servants within this Province not having Husbands living with them have been gotten with Child during the tyme of their Servitude to the great dishonour of God & apparent damage of Masters & Owners of such Servants for Remidy whereof Be it Enacted by the King & Queens most Excellent Ma^{ty}s by and with the advice and consent of this present Gen^l Assembly and the Authority of the same that every such Mother of a Bastard Child not able sufficiently to proove the party so charged to be the begetter of such Child, in every such case the mother of such Childe shall only be