

it shall and may be lawful for any Person whatsoever, to shoot, or otherwise kill and destroy such Horse or Colt; without being accountable or answerable to the Owner or Owners of such Horse and Colt; or any other Person or Persons whatsoever, in any Action or Suit whatsoever. And in case any Person or Persons shall at any Time be sued for any such shooting, killing or destroying as aforesaid, it shall and may be lawful for such Person to give this Act in Evidence upon the General Issue; any Law, Statute or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

C H A P. XXXI.

loose in the Woods, &c. may be shot, &c. Persons sued, may plead the General Issue.

XIII. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That after the End of this present Session of Assembly, it shall not be lawful for any Person, not having Land of his own, nor renting a Plantation, to keep any breeding Mare or Mares in the Woods, upon the Penalty of Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco for every breeding Mare by such Person owned and kept; the one Half of which Fines to go to his Majesty, towards defraying the County Charge where such Offender shall reside, the other Half to the Informer, or him or them that shall sue for the same; to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Effoin, Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

Penalty on Persons having no Lands, and keeping any breeding Mare in the Woods.

Examined and Compared with the Original Act, REVERDY GHISELIN, THOMAS BACON.

C H A P. XXXII.

An ACT for securing Persons Rights to Town Lands. Lib. LL. N<sup>o</sup> 4. fol. 183.

Passed 3d June 1715.

WHEREAS it is represented to this General Assembly, that several Persons of this Province, and Others, that have taken up Lots in several Town Lands, laid out and surveyed for Towns according to the Directions of several Laws of this Province heretofore made, (*That is to say,*) One Law made at a General Assembly, held at the Ridge in Ann-Arundel County, the Second Day of October, One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-three, entitled, *An Act for Advancement of Trade*; and One other Act made at a General Assembly held at the City of St. Mary's, the First Day of April, One Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-four, entitled, *An Additional and Supplementary Act to the Act for Advancement of Trade*; and the other Act made at a General Assembly held at the City of St. Mary's, the Twenty-seventh Day of October, One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-six, entitled, *A further Additional Act to the Act for Advancement of Trade, and the Supplementary Acts of the same*; and one other Act made at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of St. Mary's, the Twenty-first Day of September, Anno Domini One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-four, entitled, *An Act for erecting Ann-Arundel and Oxford Towns, into Ports and Towns*, as by the several Acts of Assembly remaining upon Record, in the Secretary's Office of this Province, may appear. And notwithstanding the several Persons, who (relying and depending upon the Benefits and Privileges in the said Laws granted) have taken up Lots in the said Towns, entered them and paid for them, or were ready to pay for them, as the Law directed, and have built and improved thereon; yet they are now threatened, disquieted and disturbed by the Persons claiming Right to the said Lands, upon Pretence, that because the said Acts are since repealed, the Titles of such Takers-up, Builders and Improvers, are destroyed, and die with the said Acts of Trade, contrary to the true Sense and rational Construction of the same Laws, or any other of like Nature: To prevent therefore, and take off all such unnecessary Doubts and Scruples thereof;

Preamble, reciting several Acts relating to Town Lands, on which, tho' since repealed, much Property depends, viz. 1683, ch. 5-

1684, ch. 2.

1686, ch. 2.

1694, ch. 8.

II. Be it Enacted, by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That all and every Person or Persons, that, paid for, &c.