

25 Charles 2.—A. D. 1672.

CHAP. 2. An act for preventing dangers which may happen from popish recusants.
See the note on 3 James 1, Ch. 4. This statute was mentioned in the toleration act.

CHAP. 7. An act for the encouragement of the Greeland and Eastland trade, and for the better securing the plantation trade.

See the note on 22 and 23 Charles 2, Ch. 26, and 13 and 14 Charles 2, Ch. 11.



30 Charles 2.—A. D. 1677.

CHAP. 7. An act to enable creditors to recover their debts of the executors and administrators of executors, in their own wrong.

This statute was practised under in the province; but it does not appear to be necessary at present, on account of the testamentary law, Ch. 8, S. 5. This statute is mentioned in the letter from S. Chase.



30 Charles 2, Stat. 2.—A. D. 1677.

CHAP. 2. An act for the more effectual preserving the king's person and government, by disabling papists from sitting in either house of parliament.

See the note on 3 James 1, Ch. 4. This statute was mentioned in the toleration act.



31 Charles 2.—A. D. 1679.

CHAP. 2. An act for the better securing the liberty of the subject, and for preventing of imprisonments beyond the seas.

It is to be presumed that this statute, which has been so highly eulogized and valued in England, and which was termed by Blackstone, the famous *habeas corpus* act, was held in equal estimation by the people of the province, and there cannot be a stronger proof of the love of power manifested by the governmental party, than is to be found in the speech of the governor, for the proprietor, in 1725, (already noticed in speaking of the statute of frauds.) It is as follows: "Many debates, if I am rightly informed, have been, in former assemblies, whether the statutes of England did extend to you or no, without either house coming to resolutions thereon, and the most common received opinions, of the best lawyers of England, have been against it, and several adjudged cases support these opinions, as in particular, the *habeas corpus* act has been often adjudged by all the judges, not to extend either to Ireland or the plantations, which is as strong a case as can be mentioned, as it is in favour of liberty, and the terms of the act, as general as can be." These opinions, however, were not acquiesced in by the people, and there were several proceedings which would shew, if it was necessary, the adoption of this statute; in one of which, it was defended even in the Upper House, as the birth right of the inhabitants. No act of assembly was passed on this subject, in the provincial go-