

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

Criminall Causes where the Grand Jury shall Finde the Bill in the Provincially Court the Attorney Generall to have 400^{lbs} of Tobacco & that the Clerks of the Indictments in the severall and respective County Courts should have 200^{lbs} of Tobacco of the Criminalls where the Grand Jury found the Bill by colour of the said Ordinance and for Lucre of Fees severall bonds have [been] putt in suite without any default & severall Venires have been Issued before any presentment of the Grand Jury or any Order of the Court so that divers of his Maj^{ties} good subjects of this province have been unjustly grieved troubled & molested upon very trivial & slight complaints to the said Attorney Generall and to the said Clerks of Indictments. for prevention of which great evill for the Future the Delegates of this present Generall Assembly do humbly pray that It may be Enacted.

And Be It Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Ma^{ty} by & with the advice & consent of this present Generall Assembly and by the Authority of the same that after the End of this Sessions of Assembly no summons or other process for any Criminall matter or misdemeanour shall Issue out of any of the Courts of this Province against any person or persons whatsoever without a presentment be first found against the said person or persons by the Grand Jury unless by a speciall order of Court, And if the Attorney Generall or any other Attorney of the Provincially Court shall Issue forth summons or any other process against any Person or Persons & no presentment or Order of Court appears upon the Record to Justifye the same the said attorney so offending shall forfeit & pay for such his offence the summe of 5000^{lbs} of Tobacco the one halfe to his sacred Ma^{ty} for the use of the Free Schoole the other halfe to the party grieved, or to him or them that shall Informe or sue for the same to be Recovered in the Provincially Court of this province by Bill, plaint or Information. And if any Clerk of Indictments in any of the County Courts of this province or any other Attorney practising in the said Courts shall Issue forth any Summons or other process against any person or persons for any Criminall matter or Misdemeanour without presentment be found First by the Grand Jury against the said person or persons or speciall order of Court appearing upon Record to Justifye the same the said Clerk of Indictments or other Attorney so offending shall forfeite & pay for such his offence the sume of 2500^{lbs} of Tobacco the one halfe to his Ma^{ty} for the use of the Free Schoole, the other halfe to the party grieved or to him or them that shall Informe or sue for the same to be Recovered in any Court of this province wherein no Essoyne or protection shall be allowed, Neither shall the party so offending have any appeale or Writt of Error, but the Judgment of the County Court shall be definitive therein. And if the Clerk of the Provincially Court of this Province or any of the Clerks of the County Courts of this Province shall Issue Summons or other process without an Order for the same under the