

## VESTRY.

being personally summoned, shall be absent from such Vestry, (without a reasonable and lawful Excuse,) under Penalty of such Fine, not exceeding 100<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco, as the Residue of the Vestry meeting, shall lay upon him. And, on Neglect of the Principal Vestryman to summon a Vestry when needful, and he is thereunto requested, any other Three of the Vestry may summon a Vestry to be holden. All such Omissions and Neglects shall be noted in the Vestry Book; and the Forfeitures to be recovered in his Majesty's Name. *Ibid.* §. 12; *viz.* before a Single Magistrate, as directed in *Art.* 15, by 1730, *ch.* 23, §. 4.

19. The several Vestries shall procure Tables of Marriages to be fairly transcribed, and set up and continually kept in their respective Parish Churches; on Penalty of 200<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco each Vestryman, except the Minister. (To be recovered, &c. as in *Art.* 15.) 1702, *ch.* 1, §. 13 and 14.

20. The Vestry and Freeholders of every Parish shall, upon Easter-Monday, yearly, chuse and appoint Two sober and discreet Freeholders of their respective Parishes, to be Church-wardens for that Year. And each Vestryman (the Minister excepted,) neglecting to appoint Church-wardens, shall forfeit 200<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco. (To be recovered, &c. as in *Art.* 15.) *Ibid.* §. 14.

21. The Church-wardens, so chosen, shall take the Oaths to the Government before the Vestry, and also an Oath well and truly to execute that Office, &c. And any Church-warden refusing to serve and take the Oaths, shall be fined 1000<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco to the King. (To be recovered in his Lordship's Name, by Information in the County Court, as directed in *Art.* 8.) *Ibid.* §. 14. But no Person, publicly known to be of any religious Profession different from the Church of *England*, shall be liable to such Choice or Penalty. 1730, *ch.* 23, §. 6.

22. For preventing Delays, &c. as well as the doing any Thing of Consequence, by Surprise, by a small Number of the Vestry, the first Tuesday in every Month shall be fixed for holding a Vestry at the usual Place, at Eleven in the Forenoon, without Notice: At which Time and Place, the Majority of the Vestry then present, not being less than Three, are empowered to act as a Vestry. 1702, *ch.* 1, §. 18.

23. Any Vestry man removing out of the Parish, neglecting to give Attendance, or otherwise becoming incapable of executing his Office, may be removed by a Majority of the Residue of the Vestry, after personal Notice given him, or Notice fixed upon the Church Door on Three several Sundays; and the Parishioners may be summoned to elect another in his Place, allowing reasonable Time, not exceeding a Fortnight, to make his Complaint, if he apprehend himself injured. *Ibid.* §. 19.

24. Any Parishioner, contributing to Parish Charges, may demand of the Register an Inspection of the Vestry Books, and take Copies of Orders, Proceedings, &c. paying a reasonable Fee. And any Persons apprehending themselves, or the Body of the Parish, to be injured or oppressed by any Proceedings of the Vestry, may appeal for Redress of the same to the Governor and Council, who shall hear and determine the same as they shall think agreeable to Justice and Equity. And their Judgment shall be final; the Right of Appeal to the King in Council being reserved. *Ibid.* §. 20.

25. No Minister shall hold Two Parishes, unless by Consent and Agreement of both Vestries, and Appointment of the Ordinary. *Ibid.* §. 16.

26. Where there is no Minister, the Vestry may present a sober, discreet Person, (as a Reader,) to the Ordinary; who may sequester Part of the 40 per Poll to pay him for his Service, and the rest to be applied as the Law directs, in case of Vacancy: Which Reader shall take the Oaths, &c. and have Licence from the Ordinary; and then may read Divine Service, &c.

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demeaning himself according to the *English* Liturgy. *Ibid.* §. 17.

27. The Justices of the several County Courts are required, on Application to them made by the Vestrymen and Church-wardens of any Parish, yearly, to assess the Parishioners, any Quantity not exceeding 10<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco per Poll, on the Taxable Inhabitants; whether it be for Repairs, or Enlargement of any Church, or for any other Charge which shall be judged by the Vestry and Church wardens to be necessary for the Use of the Parish: Which shall be collected and paid to the Vestry by the Sheriff, who shall be allowed Five per Cent for collecting. 1729, *ch.* 7, §. 2. See also 1702, *ch.* 1, §. 15; and 1704, *ch.* 34, §. 4.

28. When there is no Incumbent in a Parish, the Vestry may employ the 40 per Poll, during the Vacancy, for the Repairing of Churches, finishing and compleating the Inside thereof, as the Vestry shall think proper; purchasing Pulpit Cloth, Cushion, Bible, Common-Prayer Book, or Plate, for the Use of the Church. Where Churches are decayed, and not fit to be used, the Vestry may, during such Vacancy, apply the 40 per Poll for Building of new ones. If no such Applications be necessary, then it may be applied for the purchase of a Tract of Land near the Parish Church, &c. which Land shall remain as a Glebe, to the Use of the Incumbent for the Time being, for ever; and any Overplus may be employed in improving and stocking such Glebe. 1715, *ch.* 24.

29. The Vestry shall keep a fair Account of their Disposition of the 40 per Poll, during the Vacancy of the Parish; and also of the 10 per Poll (*by Art.* 27,) and transmit a Copy of the same yearly, before the 10<sup>th</sup> of *March*, to the Governor and Council for their Inspection, under the Hands of the Principal Vestryman, and four of his Brethren of longest Standing. Who neglecting to transmit such Copy as aforesaid, shall forfeit 1000<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco; One Half to the Support of Government, the other Half to the Informer. 1704, *ch.* 34, §. 5 and 6; and 1729, *ch.* 7, §. 3.

See *Church Lands*, 4. *Cursing*, &c. per Tot. *Fornication*, 2—4. *Inspectors*, 3—7, 10—12. *Ministers*, 4. *Parochial Libraries*, 3—5. *Protestant Interest*, 7. *Tobacco Run*, 4.

## VIENNA MARSH.

A Road and Causeway to be made through the Marsh, and be kept in Repair. 1756, *ch.* 20.

VISITORS. See *Schools*.

## UNCERTAIN GOODS.

1. Uncertain Goods shall be to the Lord Proprietary, and sold at Outcry. 1640, *ch.* 2, §. 1.

2. Any Person having Right to such Goods, and claiming within Three Years, shall be restored to his Right. *Ibid.* §. 2.

3. The Finder of such Goods to have one Half. *Ibid.*

UNSETTLED FREEMEN. See *Taxables*, 5.

## USURY.

1. No Person shall exact or take, directly or indirectly, for Loan of any Monies, or Commodities of any kind to be paid in Money, above Six per Cent, *per Annum*; nor for any Tobaccos, or Wares to be paid for in Tobacco, more than Eight per Cent, *per Annum*. 1704, *ch.* 69, §. 1.

2. All Bonds, &c. bearing greater Interest, shall be utterly void. *Ibid.* §. 2.

3. Persons taking or exacting more, by any corrupt Ways or Means, shall forfeit treble the Value of the Money, Tobacco, Wares, &c. One Half to the Support of Government, the other Half to the Informer. *Ibid.* §. 3.

W. WAGES.