

ACTS

Lib. B. L. C. Maryland ss.

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At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis the 11th Day of August in the twenty third Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable Charles Absolute Lord & Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c Annoq Dom 1737 and Ending the 16th Day of the same month.

The following Laws were Enacted and Assented to by his Excellency Samuel Ogle Esq^r Governour

An Act to prohibit the Exportation of Grain Bread and Flour

Whereas the Great Drought which has happened this present Year will in all Probability occasion a Scarcity of Grain within this Province whereby the Inhabitants thereof Especially the poorer Sort are in danger of being reduced to want and misery unless the most Speedy and Effectual methods be taken to prevent the Exportation of Grain Bread and Flour And Whereas his Excellency the Governour in Order as much as in him lay to prevent so great a Calamity to the People as the Want of bread on the third Day of this Instant August with the Advice of his Lordships Honourable Council issued his Proclamation to prohibit the Exportation of any Indian Corn Wheat or other Grain untill the fifteenth Instant and gave direction to publish the same with utmost Expedition as the best Expedient that Could have been used on so pressing an occasion untill the Legislature could make a more Effectual Provision therein which was the more necessary because the scarcity of Grain in Foreign Parts would have been an Inducement to Purchasers to have given Great Rates to such as would spare any and a Great price would probably have tempted people to have disposed off as much as they Could though with the Manifest Hazard of the Welfare of the Inhabitants of this Province For prevention whereof Be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governour and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly and the Authority of the same That any Master or Commander of any Ship or Vessell or any other Person or Persons who has or have taken or laden any Wheat Indian Corn or other Grain Meal Flour or bread on board of any ship or other Vessell with Intent to Export the same out of this Province since the publication of the said Proclamation who shall not within twenty Days after the Publication of this Act land the same shall forfeit such Wheat Indian Corn or other Grain Meal Flour or bread together with the full Value thereof one half to the Lord Proprietary the other half to the Informer who will sue for the same to be recovered