

ACTS OF THE ASSEMBLY PASSED IN JULY 1754

At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis the Seventeenth Day of July in the fourth Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable Frederick Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c.^a Annoq̄ Domini 1754 and ending the twenty fifth Day of the same Month.

Liber H. S.
No. 1
p. 152

The following Laws were enacted and assented to by his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esquire Governor.

No. 1 An Act for his Majesty's Service.

Whereas the Right Honourable the Earl of Holderness, by his Letter dated Whitehall, August 28, 1753, directed to his Excellency the Governor of this Province, hath signified the March of a considerable Number of Indians, not in Alliance with the King, supported by some regular European Troops, intending to commit some Hostilities on Parts of his Majesty's Dominions in America, as it was apprehended, and to instruct him to keep a Correspondence with the neighbouring Governors, for preventing any evil Consequences from such intended Invasion. And whereas, the Governor of Virginia hath signified to his said Excellency, that the French, and their allied Indians, have used many Violences on his Majesty's Subjects within that Dominion, and that it further appears to this General Assembly, that the French, with an armed Force, have dispossessed many of his Majesty's Subjects of Settlements which they had made, and were about to improve, within his Majesty's Dominions, and threaten the March of many Men, with Artillery, and other Stores, for erecting Forts, and Places of Strength, on the River Ohio, and the Branches thereof, as well to prevent the British Nation from a Settlement thereon, as a Trade with the native Indians to the Westward, which at all Times heretofore they had enjoyed without the least Let or Interruption. And further threaten any of his Majesty's Subjects with Loss of Goods and Liberty, who they shall find trading on the said River, or Branches thereof. And whereas, lately, an armed Force of French, with many of their allied Indians, have marched into his Majesty's Territories, inhabited by his Majesty's Subjects, and in a hostile Manner attacked a smaller Body of his Majesty's Forces, under the Command of Col. George Washington, and killed and destroyed many of his Majesty's faithful Subjects, within the inhabited Part of the Territory of Virginia, and near the Borders of this Province, and done or caused many other Evils to be perpetrated against his Majesty's Subjects, as well by them the said French, as

[Preamble.]