

(301)
Lib W R

be paid and defrayed by the publick and Law Statute by
tome or usage to the contrary herof in anywise not with
standing

His Lords Highwilleth these to be laws
Ch. Baltimore

Acts made at a Generall Assembly held at the City of
S^t Maryes the twentieth day of October in the third year of the
Dominion of Charles &c. Annoq^{ue} Domini one thousand
Six hundred Seventy eight

The Hon^{ble} Thomas Motley Esq^r Governour
An Act For Keeping Holy the Lords Day

132

Forasmuch as there is nothing more acceptable to almight
ty God then the true and sincere service & worship of him
according to his holy will and forasmuch as the sancti
fying or keeping holy of the Lords Day commonly called
Sunday is and hath been esteemed by the present and all
primitive Christian Churches and People a principall &
chief part of the said worship which day in most places
of this Province hath been and still is profaned and
Neglected by a wicked and disorderly sort of people by
working Duunkenesse Swearing gaming unlawfull
pastimes and other debaucheries to the high dishonour
of Almighty God the Scandall of Christian Religion and
the appparent detriment and Ruine of many of the Inhabi
tants of this Province for remedy whereof for the future Be
it enacted by the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary by and
with the Consent of the upper and lower houses of this
present Generall Assembly and the authority of the same
that from and after twenty days next after the end of
this Session of Assembly noe person or persons within
this Province shall work or doe any bodily Labour or
occupation upon any Lords day commonly called Sunday
nor shall command or willfully suffer or permit any
of his or their children hired servants servants or
slaves to work or labour as aforesaid (the absolute &
works of necessity and mercy alwayes excepted) And
for that through the wicked and profane licentious
ness of severall persons inhabiting or travelling into
this Province it hath been customary for such sort
of persons to spend the said day in the bodily exercise
or occupation of fishing Be it likewise enacted by the
authority