

Acts and Laws,

P A S S E D by the

Great and General Court or Assembly

Of the PROVINCE of the

MASSACHUSETTS-BAY

I N

N E W - E N G L A N D,

From 1692, to 1719.

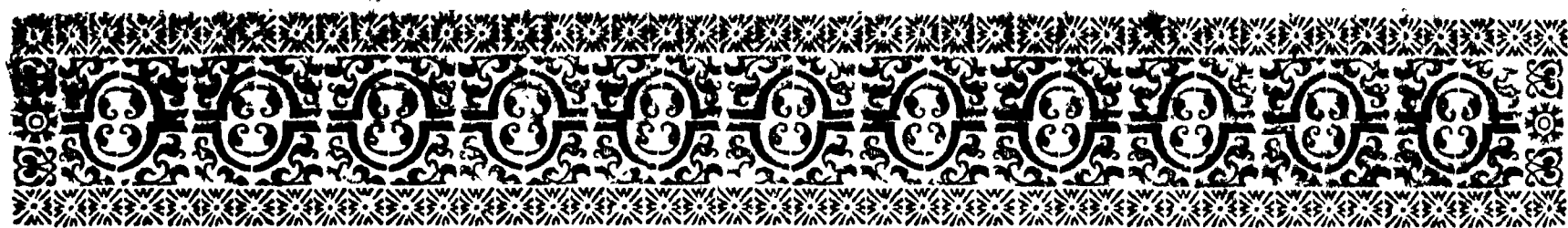
To which is Prefix'd,

The C H A R T E R, Granted by Their late
Majesties King *William* and Queen *Mary*, to the
Inhabitants of the said Province, *A. D.* 1691,
Annoq; Regni 3^o.



L O N D O N,

Printed by *John Baskett*, Printer to the King's most Excellent
Majesty, MDCCXXIV.



A C T S and L A W S Passed by the Great and General Court or Assembly of His Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*; Begun and Held at *Boston* upon *Wednesday* the Twenty seventh Day of *May*, 1719.



An Act for the Punishing and Preventing of Duelling.

No 299.



HEREAS, to the great Dishonour of Almighty God, in Defiance of the Laws of Nature and Nations, contrary to the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, and the precious Life of Man, there have been in this Province of late Years several Duels, and dangerous Rencounters and Quarrels: For the Preventing and Suppressing whereof, Be it Enacted by his Excellency the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That whoever, from and after the Publication of this Act, shall, of their own Heads, and for private Malice, Displeasure, in Fury or Revenge, fight a Duel, Combat, or engage in a Rencounter with Rapier, or Small-Sword, Back-Sword, Pistol, or any other dangerous Weapon, to the Danger of Life, Maihem, or Wounding of the Parties, or the Affray of His Majesty's good Subjects, (although Death doth not thereby ensue) and be thereof convicted, by due Course of Law, before the Court of Assize, or Court of General Sessions of the Peace, in the respective Counties of this Province, shall be punished by Fine, not exceeding a Hundred Pounds, Imprisonment, not exceeding Six Months, or Corporally punished (not extending to Member or Pillory) any or all of the said Punishments, at the Discretion of the Court that have Cognizance of such Offence, as the Nature and Circumstances of the Fact and Persons may require; and be also further obliged to find Sureties for the Peace and good Behaviour for so long a Time, as the said Court shall judge reasonable.

Punishment
for Duels and
Rencounters.

To find Sure-
ties.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons, by Word, Writing, or Message, challenge another to fight a Duel, and be thereof convicted by due Course of Law, he or they shall be punished in Manner and Form, as aforesaid.

Challenges.

N^o 300. *An Act in Addition to an Act, Intituled, An Act in further Addition to the Act for Encouraging the Killing of Wolves, made in the Fifth Year of the Reign of King William and Queen Mary.*

Expired.



N^o 301. *An Act in further Addition to an Act for Erecting a Powder-House in Boston.*

WHEREAS Gun-powder in great Quantities is imported and exported at the Port of *Boston*, and the Ships or Vessels, in which such Powder commonly is, lie at the Wharffs near to the Ware-houses and Dwelling-houses of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* afore said, being often grounded, whereby, in case of Fire, the Lives and Estates of His Majesty's good Subjects are in great Danger, as well as able-bodied and well-disposed Persons discouraged and affrighted from giving their Assistance, and using any Endeavours for the Extinguishment thereof: Be it therefore Enacted by his Excellency the Governor, Council, and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That, from and after the Publication of this Act, no Gun-powder shall be kept on Board any Ship, or other Vessel, lying to or grounded at any Wharff within the Port of *Boston*. And if any Gun-powder shall be found on Board such Ship or Vessel lying aground, as afore said, such Powder shall be liable to Confiscation, and under the same Penalty, as if it were found lying in any House or Ware-house.

No Gun-powder to be kept in Vessels lying at a Wharff.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority afore said, That no Powder be carried through any Town upon Trucks, under the Penalty of Ten Shillings *per* Barrel for every Barrel of Powder so conveyed, and so proportionably for smaller Cask.

Gun-powder not to be carried on Trucks.

AND be it further Enacted by the Authority afore said, That such Quantity of Gun-powder, as by Law is permitted and allowed to be kept in Shops for Retail, shall hereafter be kept in Brasses or Tin Tunnels, and no otherwise, under the Penalty of forfeiting all such Gun-powder; one Moiety thereof to be to the Use of the Poor of the Town where such Powder shall be found, and the other Moiety to them that shall inform and sue for the same: And that the Fire-wards of the Town of *Boston* for the Time being, be and hereby are directed strictly to observe and put this Law in Execution; any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

To be kept in Brasses or Tin Tunnels.