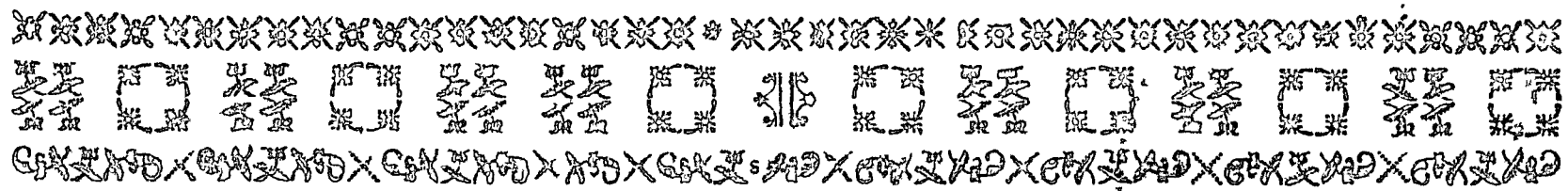


A. D. 1784.



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AT a GENERAL ASSEMBLY begun and held at *Hillsborough*, on the Nineteenth day of *April*, in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Four, and in the Eighth Year of the Independence of the said State: Being the First Session of this Assembly.

His Excellency
ALEXANDER
MARTIN, esq.
Governor.

C H A P. I.

An act to amend an act, intituled, An act for ascertaining what property in this state shall be deemed taxable property, the method of assessing the same, and collecting public taxes.

BE it enacted by the general assembly of the state of North-Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That all lands as described by the aforementioned act, town lots with their improvements, all free males and servants twenty one years old or upwards, and all slaves male and female between the age of twelve and fifty years within this state, shall be subject to the payment of public taxes, and the public taxes on such property and persons shall be assessed and proportioned as follows, viz: All lands shall be liable to be taxed by the quantity, and freemen and male servants twenty one years old and upwards, and slaves male and female between the age of twelve and fifty years, shall be subject to a poll-tax.

Property deemed
taxable, and
how assessed.

II. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the public tax on each and every poll shall be equal to the public tax on three hundred acres of land, and town lots with their improvements shall be valued as herein after directed.*

Poll-tax

III. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the sheriff of each*
A and

A. D 1784.



III. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That in all criminal prosecutions hereafter to be had by indictment or presentment in the county courts; it shall be sufficient to all intents and purposes that the bill shall contain the charge against the criminal expressed in a plain, simple, intelligible and explicit manner, and that no bill of indictment or presentment shall be quashed, or judgment arrested, for or by reason of any informalities or refinements, when there appears to the county court sufficient in the face of the indictment to induce them to proceed to judgment.

C H A P. XXXII.

An act to ascertain the measurement of fire-wood sold in the several towns established within this state by the legislature.

BE it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of North-Carolina; and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That all fire-wood sold in the towns established within this state by the legislative authority, shall be sold by the cord and no otherwise; and that each cord shall contain eight feet in length, four feet in height, and four feet in breadth, and shall be corded by the carter or seller, under the penalty of twenty shillings for each offence, to be recovered against the owner or seller, before a single magistrate by a warrant, which penalty shall be to the use of the informer. Measurement of wood.

C H A P. XXXIII.

An act to prevent the several species of hunting therein mentioned.

BE it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of North-Carolina; and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That if any person or persons shall be discovered hunting in the woods with a gun in the night-time by fire-light, such person or persons so offending shall upon conviction by indictment or presentment in any court of record in the state be fined by such court twenty pounds current money, to be applied to the use of the county wherein the offence was committed; and if any person so fined shall fail or refuse to pay such fine, the person so failing or refusing shall receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back by order of such court, to be well laid on in open view by the sheriff of the county, and shall stand committed until all costs accruing upon the presentment be paid. Pen. for fire-hunting.

II. *AND WHEREAS* many persons make a practice of hunting and killing deer and leaving the carcases in the woods, *Be it enacted,* That if any person shall be convicted as aforesaid of killing any deer and leaving the carcases thereof in the woods, he shall for every offence forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings. And leaving carcases in the woods.

III. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any slave or slaves shall be discovered hunting in manner herein before-mentioned, the master of such slave or slaves, or the person in whose service he or they may be, shall upon due conviction of such slave or slaves before any justice of the peace of the county Pen. for slaves hunting and committing mischief.

A. D. 1784

county wherein such offence may be committed forfeit the sum of five pounds, to be levied by a warrant immediately to be issued by such justice for that purpose; and if any person shall be duly convicted as aforesaid of sending his slave to hunt with a gun in the night by fire-light he shall be subject to the same pains as are provided by this act to be inflicted on fire-hunters.

Persons may
hunt their own
land,

IV. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That it shall not be lawful for any person on the east-side of the Apalachian mountains to kill or destroy any deer running wild in the woods or unfenced grounds in this state by gun or otherwise, between the twentieth day of *February* and the fifteenth day of *August* then next succeeding in each year, unless on his own lands; and if any person on the east-side of the said mountains shall kill or otherways destroy any deer within the time before described and contrary to the meaning and intent of this act, every such person shall forfeit and pay for each and every deer so unlawfully killed or destroyed the sum of forty shillings, to be recovered before any justice of the peace, and applied as is by this act directed: And in case any servant or slave shall on the east-side of the said mountains kill or destroy any deer between the twentieth day of *February* and the fifteenth day of *August* in any year, the owner of such slave shall be liable to pay the sum of forty shillings for each deer so unlawfully killed or destroyed to be recovered and applied as before directed.

And those of o-
ther persons
w. h. leave.

V. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That it shall not be lawful for any person or persons on the east-side of the Apalachian mountains to hunt with a gun or with dogs on the lands of any other person without leave obtained from the owner of the said land, under the penalty of forfeiting five pounds for every offence, to be recovered by the owner before any justice of the peace of the county where such offence is committed or the offender resides, and applied one-half to his own use, the other half to the use of the county: *Provided*, That no such recovery shall be had for the offence afore-mentioned unless the owner of the land shall by advertisement posted up in two or more public places have forbid the persons so hunting by name, or all persons generally to hunt on his land previous to the offence: *Provided also*, That recovery shall not be had in any case whatever unless the prosecution is commenced within one month after the offence is committed.

Proviso.

Repeal. clause.

VI. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That so much of the laws heretofore made, which relates to fire-hunting and destroying deer at unreasonable times of the year as comes within the purview of this act be, and is hereby repealed and made void to all intents and purposes, and construed as if the same had never been made.

Fines how ap-
plied.

VII. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all fines imposed and recovered by virtue of this act shall be one-half to the use of the informer, the other half to the use of the poor of the county wherein the offence shall be committed, except such as are otherwise directed.

Suspend. clause.

VIII. *AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That this act shall not operate or take effect until the first day of *July* next.

A. D. 1784.

Coms. allowed.

IV. AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the aforesaid commissioners shall within six months after running the said line make return thereof to each of their respective county courts, which shall be entered on record, and be held and deemed the dividing line between the counties aforesaid.

V. AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the commissioners by this act appointed, shall be allowed for their trouble and expence of running said line by the respective county courts.

C. H. A. P. LXXX.

An act for extending the boundary line between the counties of Currituck and Camden, and for allowing surveyors further time to make their returns.

Preamble.

Line run.

Coms. appointed.

Further time allowed surveyors.

WHEREAS there is no established boundary line between the said counties of Currituck and Camden; and whereas disputes may arise respecting the same,

II. BE it therefore enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the following shall hereafter be held and deemed the boundary line between the said counties, that is to say: Beginning at the head of North river where the same forks into two runs, thence a direct course to the middle of Lamb's toll-road or bridge, thence a direct course to the Virginia line, so as to divide that part of the Great Dismal Swamp, as nearly as may be between the said counties.

V. AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the justices of the county courts of Currituck and Camden are hereby authorised and empowered to appoint commissioners, not exceeding three in each county, for running the said boundary line, and shall pay the necessary expences attending the same out of their respective county taxes.

IV. AND be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That where any vacant lands may have been entered in either of the said counties over the said line, the same shall have preference according to the date of such entry as fully as though it had been made in the county where the land shall appear to be.

V. AND WHEREAS by reason of the great difficulty of making surveys in the swamps and low lands in this State, the surveyors in many counties have not made their returns agreeable to law, BE it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the county surveyors shall be allowed a further time of twelve months from and after the passing this act for making their returns; any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Read three times, and ratified in General Assembly, the Second Day of June, Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

RICHARD CASWELL, S. S.

THOMAS BENBURY, S. C.