

VI. And for the better suppressing all public gaming houses, *Be it hereby further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful to and for any two of his Majesty's justices of the peace to enter into any public houses suspected of keeping any gaming tables, and to order and direct the keepers of such gaming tables, if any such shall be found therein, to remove the same within forty-eight hours as a public nuisance; and any person refusing or neglecting to obey the order of such justices, the said justices shall have power to break and prostrate such public gaming tables, and also to require sufficient security from persons keeping such gaming houses, for their good behaviour during twelve months, or for their appearance at the next quarter sessions, there to be prosecuted for offending against this act, or in case he or they shall refuse to find security, then to commit him or them to the common goal of the county for trial. On conviction, to be either fined or imprisoned, as the court shall direct.

Two justices may enter public houses suspected of keeping gaming tables and order their removal within 48 hours and on refusal to remove, may break and prostrate the same and require security from the offenders for their good behavior, &c.

In case of refusal to find security, offenders to be committed.

On conviction to be fined or imprisoned.

VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace to cause to be brought before them every person against whom information shall be lodged by the members of the grand jury sworn at the preceding session of the peace held in the county, or by some one of them that he or they have reason to suspect such person to have no visible estate or calling to maintain himself by, but that he does for the most part support himself by gaming; and if such person shall not make it appear that the principal part of his expences is not maintained by gaming, such justices shall require of him security for his good behaviour for twelve months, and in default of his finding such security commit him to the common goal until he shall find such security.

On information of sworn grand jurors two justices to apprehend persons suspected of maintaining themselves by gaming.

If persons charged do not prove the contrary, such justices may require security for good behavior for 12 months and on non-compliance may commit.

CAP. XXVII.

An ACT for preventing IDLENESS and DISORDERS, and for punishing ROGUES, VAGABONDS, and other idle and disorderly persons.

I. *Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly,*

THAT all persons who not having any visible means of maintaining themselves, live idle and refuse to work for the usual wages, and all persons going about to beg alms, and all idle and wandering persons, who shall not have a pass or testimonial from some justice of the peace, setting forth from whence such idle and wandering persons shall have come and the place to which they are to pass, and all persons who return to such town parish or place from whence they have been legally removed by order of two justices of the peace, without bringing a certificate from

Persons not having any visible means of maintaining themselves, refusing to work, going about to beg alms, not having a pass from a justice, returning to the place from whence removed, shall be deemed idle and disorderly.

A justice of the peace may on information apprehend such idle or disorderly persons and examine them, and on refusal to answer or giving false answers may consider and deal with them as such.

from the town or parish whereunto they belong shall be deemed idle and disorderly persons, and it shall be lawful for any justice of the peace on receiving information that any idle or disorderly person or persons is or are in any place within his jurisdiction, to issue his warrant to the constables to search for and apprehend such idle and disorderly person or persons and bring him or them before such justice, who is hereby empowered to examine such person or persons not only as to their manner of livelihood and subsistence, but also as to the place from whence they came and where they were last settled, and they refusing to be examined or not making true answers to such questions as shall be put to them by such justice on such their examination, shall be considered as idle and disorderly persons within the intent and meaning of this act, and be dealt with accordingly.

Justice of the peace may commit offenders against this act to prison or house of correction.

II. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for any justice of the peace to commit all and every person and persons by this act mentioned and described as idle and disorderly persons (and thereof convicted by their own confession by view or by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, or refusing to be examined, or returning untrue answers as aforesaid) to prison or to the house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding one month.

Constables of towns, &c. required, on notice by an inhabitant to apprehend offenders against this act, and convey them to a justice to be examined, &c.

III. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons shall be found offending in any town or parish or place against this act it shall and may be lawful for any constable of such town, parish or place, and he is hereby enjoined and required on notice thereof given him by any of the inhabitants, to apprehend and convey, or cause to be conveyed, such person so offending, to a justice of the peace of the county in order to be examined and proceeded against according to law. And if any constable after such notice given as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to use his best endeavors to apprehend and convey such offenders before a justice of the peace as aforesaid, being thereof legally convicted before such justice of the peace, every such constable shall forfeit and pay to the use of the poor thereof the sum of ten shillings, to be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods, by warrant from such justice, and the overplus if any, after the charge of prosecution and of such distress shall be satisfied, shall be return'd to such offender.

Constables refusing or neglecting to apprehend &c. as aforesaid to be fined 10s.

Persons aggrieved may appeal to the next general quarter sessions on finding two sufficient securities in £10 each, to prosecute the same.

IV. *And be it further enacted*, That any person or persons who shall conceive him, her or themselves aggrieved by any act, judgment or determination of any justice or justices of the peace out of sessions in and concerning the execution of this act may appeal to the next general quarter sessions of the city or county on finding two sufficient securities in ten pounds each, to prosecute such appeal to effect.