

Public Record Office, London. C. O. 5, Vol. 731, Maryland. From 1694-1702. Acts

aforesaid in such manner and forme as by the said Law is mencōned and expressed upon Returne of which writt in case the person or persons found to be the true Owners and possessors of the said land should refuse to build a mill thereon and give Security for so doing as the Law in that Case directs, It should be lawfull for their said Ma^{tys} their Heires and Successors or for their Cheif Governor here for the tyme being to make a Grant of such and so many Acres of Land as by the said Law is Lymitted and allowed to such person or persons as would undertake to build the same and give Security for the performance thereof as the Law in that case requires for any tyme or terme not exceeding Eighty yeares. And forasmuch as no Provision in the said Law hath been made whereby to oblige such person or persons to keep such Watermills by them sett up built and finished as aforesaid in repaire during the tyme and Terme of their Grant as aforesaid by means whereof some persons having once built sett up and finished a Watermill as aforesaid and having obteyned a Grant of the said Land whereon such Watermill did stand for the terme and tyme of Fourscore yeares as aforesaid have after such mill hath been casually broken or otherwise gone to decay wholly neglected and refused to repair the same: Yett under pretence of having once built a Mill as aforesaid Have and doe tend and occupy the said Land, raising of Stocks and felling of Tymber thereon to the great prejudice and damage of the reall Owner or Owners of such Land as aforesaid and prevencōn of other well disposed persons who would undertake the building of Watermills as aforesaid.

It is therefore humbly prayed that it may be Enacted and be it Enacted by the King & Queens most Excellent Ma^{tys} by and with the advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly and the Authority of the same, That from and after the Publicacōn hereof no person or persons whatsoever having or that shall hereafter have obteyned any Grant for any Lands whereof such person or persons are not the reall Owners and possessors thereof and whereon he she or they have already built or shall hereafter build any Watermill as the Law aforesaid hath directed shall have any right Title or clayme to any land granted to them for any tyme or terme whatsoever after such mill by him or them already built as aforesaid or that shall hereafter be built shall be casually broke or gone to decay as aforesaid other then two years for the new erecting building finishing or repairing of such Mill as aforesaid, but that in all and every case where any person or persons who have already built or that shall hereafter build any Watermills which are or that shall hereafter be broke or gone to decay as aforesaid and shall not within two years after the Publicacōn hereof or within two yeares after such Mill shall become broke or gone to decay as aforesaid cause the same to be new builded repaired or finished as aforesaid It shall & may be lawfull for the reall Owner or Owners of such Land to such person or persons so granted as aforesaid to reenter upon the same, and in case such