

But to the end that Looseness Irreligion & Aethism may not creep in under pretence of Conscience in this province, Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid That according to the Example of the primitive Christians, & for the ease of the creation, every first day of the week called, The Lords Day, people shall abstain from their usuall & common toill & Labour, That whether Masters, Parents, Children or Servants they may the Better dispose themselfe to read the Scriptures of Truth at home or frequent such Meetings of religious worship abroad as may best suit their respective Perswasions.

Great Law, chapter 1. See Vol. II St.L. 3, ch. I.

CHAPTER 2.

[2] THE LAW CONCERNING QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that all Officers & persons commissionated & Employed in the Service of the Government of this province and all members and Deputies elected to serve in Assembly thereof & all that have Right to elect such deputies, shall be such as profess & declare they believe in Jesus Christ to be the Son of God, the Saviour of the world & that are not Convicted of ill Fame or unsober & dishonest Conversation & that are of 21 years of age at least.

Great Law, chapter 2. Replaced by chapter 141, 1699.

CHAPTER 3.

[3] THE LAWS AGAINST SWEARING.

Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid That whosoever shall Swear in their common conversation by the Name of God or Christ or Jesus, being Legally convicted thereof, shall pay for every such Offence 5 shillings or suffer 5 days Imprisonment in the house of Correction at hard Labour to the behoof of the publick, & be fedd with Bread & water only during that Time.

And be it further Enacted That whosoever shall Swear by any other thing or Name, & is legally convicted thereof, shall pay for every such Offence half a Crown, or Suffer three days imprisonment in the house of Correction at hard Labour having only bread & water for their Sustainance.

Great Law, chapters 3 and 4. Replaced by chapter 133, 1697.

CHAPTER 4.

[4] THE LAWS AGAINST PROPHANE SPEAKING.

Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid for the better prevention of corrupt Communication, That whosoever shall speak loosely or prophanely of Almighty God, Christ, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or the Scriptures of Truth, and is Legally convicted thereof, shall for every such Offence pay 5 shillings or suffer 5 days Imprisonment in the house of Correction at hard Labour, to the behoof of the publick and be fed with bread and water only, during that time.

Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person shall be drunk, or Curse Swear, speak prophanely or obscenely such person shall be punished according to Law by any one Justice of the peace so as the Offence be in the presence of any Officer or magistrate, or by the parties confession or the Evidence of two credible persons . . . And if any Justice of the peace or other publick Officer shall be convicted of any of the aforesaid Crimes, he shall pay double the penalty mentioned against such offenders, & be dismissed his Office.

Great Law, chapter 5. Replaced by Vol. II St.L. 49, ch. XLIV.

CHAPTER 5.

[5] THE LAW AGAINST CURSING.

Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid That whosoever shall in their Conversation at any time Curse himself or any other or any thing belonging to himself or any other, & is Legally convicted of the same,