

their own territories ; but this Act is referred to here as distinctly recognizing the rights of the Company to exclusive trade within their own territories.

With regard to Taxation and Government, the Company, under their charter, are invested with power "to make, ordain and constitute such and so many reasonable laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances as to them, or the greater part of them, being then and there present, shall seem necessary and convenient for the good government of the said Company, and of all Governors of colonies, forts and plantations, factors, masters, mariners and other officers employed or to be employed in any of the territories and lands aforesaid, and in any of their voyages, and for the better advancement and continuance of the said trade or traffic and plantations, and the same laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances so made, to put in use and execute accordingly, and at their pleasure to revoke and alter the same, or any of them, as the occasion shall require : and it is provided, that the said Governor and Company, so often as they shall make, ordain or establish any such laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances, in such form as aforesaid, shall and may lawfully impose, ordain, limit and provide such pains, penalties and punishments upon all offenders contrary to such laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances, or any of them, as to the said Governor and Company for the time being, or the greater part of them then and there being present (the said Governor, or his deputy, being always one), shall seem necessary, requisite or convenient for the observation of the same laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances ; and the same fines and americiaments shall and may, by their officers and servants, from time to time to be appointed for that purpose, levy, take and have to the use of the said Governor and Company, and their successors, without the impediment of us, our heirs or successors, or of any of the officers or ministers of us, our heirs or successors, and without any account therefore to us, our heirs or successors, to be made so always as the said laws, constitutions, orders and ordinances, fines and americiaments, be reasonable, and not contrary or repugnant, but as near as may be agreeable to the laws, statutes or customs of this our realm." And it is further provided, "that all lands, islands, territories, plantations, forts, fortifications, factories or colonies, where the said Company's factories and trade are or shall be, within any the ports or places afore limited, shall be immediately and from henceforth under the power and command of the said Governor and Company, their successors and assigns, and the said Governor and Company are empowered to appoint and establish Governors and all other officers to govern them." And it is provided, "that the Governor and his Council of the several and respective places where the said Company shall have plantations, forts, factories, colonies or places of trade, within any of the countries, lands or territories hereby granted, may have power to judge all persons belonging to the said Governor and Company, or that shall live under them, in all causes, whether civil or criminal, according to the laws of this Kingdom, and to execute justice accordingly ; and in case any crime or misdemeanor shall be committed in any of the said Company's plantations, forts, factories or places of trade, within the limits aforesaid, where judicature cannot be executed for want of Governor and Council there, then in such case it shall and may be lawful for the Chief Factor of that place and his council transmit the party, together with the offence, to such other plantation, factor.