

SessionLaws many Frauds in deceiving his Majesty's Customs, which have greatly increased, to the very great decay of the Trade of this Province.

For prevention whereof,

No Tobacco to be exported, 'til first brought to a public Warehouse

Be it Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That, for the more effectual preventing the Exportation of Trash, bad, unsound, and unmerchantable Tobacco, all Tobacco, which shall be made after the first Day of December next, and which shall be exported out of this Province from and after the first Day of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty-eight, shall be first brought to some, or one of the public Warehouses herein after-mentioned; and shall be there viewed and inspected, in Manner as herein after is expressed.

Masters of Ships, &c. not to take on board any un-inspected Tobacco

Oath to be administered to Masters and Mates of Vessels

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person shall put on board, or receive into, any Ship, Sloop, Boat, or other Vessel, in order to be exported therein, any such Tobacco not packed in Hogsheads, Casks, or Cases, upon any Pretence whatsoever; nor in any Hogshead, Cask, or Case, to be in that, or any other Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, exported out of this Province, before the same shall have been viewed and inspected, according to the Directions of this Act: But that all such Tobacco, to be received or taken on board any Ship, Sloop, or other Vessel, and to be therein exported; or to be carried or put on board any other Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, for Exportation, as aforesaid; shall be received or taken on board at the several Warehouses for that Purpose herein after mentioned, or some, or one of them, and at no other Place or Places whatsoever. And every Master, Mate, or Boatswain, which shall arrive in this Province, in order to lade Tobacco that is to be made and subjected to the Directions of this Act, and during the Continuance thereof, shall, before the said Ship or Vessel be permitted to take on board any such Tobacco, make Oath, or Affirmation if a Quaker, before the Naval Officer of the District wherein such Ship or Vessel shall arrive (which Oath the said Naval Officer is hereby empowered and required to administer), "That they will not permit any such Tobacco to be taken on board their respective Ships or Vessels, except the same be packed in Hogsheads, Casks, or Cases, stamped by some Inspector, legally thereunto appointed:" Which Oath they shall subscribe in a Book, to be kept by the Naval Officer for that Purpose. And if any such Master shall cause any Person, who is not really, and bona fide, Mate or Boatswain of the Ship or Vessel, to come on Shore and take such Oath, he shall, for the said Offence, forfeit and pay thirty Pounds current Money. And if any Master or Commander of any Ship or Vessel shall take on board, or suffer to be taken on board the Ship or Vessel whereof he is Master, any Tobacco brought from any other Place, than some, or one of the