

four persons to be gaugers of casks in the city of Baltimore, and as many as may be necessary from time to time in other parts of said state, whose duty it shall be to gauge and inspect all domestic distilled spirits brought or made therein, contained in casks for sale or exportation, and who shall also gauge when thereunto required, any cask containing foreign spirits, wine, oil, molasses or other liquid merchandise; and before either of said gaugers shall enter upon the duties of his office, he shall give bond to the governor on behalf of the state of Maryland, with two good securities to be approved by the governor and council, conditioned in the sum of one thousand dollars each for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and whenever either of said gaugers shall be sick, he may and shall appoint a competent deputy to perform his duties for the time being, and for whose conduct the principal shall be held responsible.

Their duties; bonds.

Deputy.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the gaugers aforesaid shall divide the city of Baltimore in four or more convenient districts, and having allowed one district to each gauger, that they shall thereafter perform their duties progressively through said district, interchanging the same on every Monday morning, and that it shall and may be lawful for either of said gaugers upon application being made to him for that purpose, to gauge and inspect within any other than his allotted district, provided the quantity of liquor ready to be gauged or inspected, shall make it necessary for him to do so in order to prevent delay; and it shall be the duty of each of the gaugers aforesaid, to return once in every six months, on oath or affirmation to the governor and council, an accurate account of the number of each denomination of casks containing liquors by him gauged or inspected, distinguishing those containing domestic distilled liquors from all others.

4 districts; alternately.

Make returns on oath.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the gaugers aforesaid shall mark all merchantable casks containing domestic distilled liquors, with the letter B. with a marking iron on the bilge near the bung of each cask, to denote Baltimore inspection, and every cask containing such liquor to be passed as merchantable, must be round at the bilge and heads, the staves thereof to be seasoned white oak, free from any injurious portion of sap wood, and not less than half an inch thick at the thinnest part, and not more than three-quarters of an inch at the thickest part thereof, and to be tight and secured with a sufficient number of good hoops, if of iron six, and if of wood, not less than twelve good and sufficient hoops on all barrels, and at least twelve good and sufficient hoops on all double barrels and hogsheads; and if any cask containing such liquor shall be found insufficient in any of those respects by either of said gaugers, he

Mark B.

Cask prescribed.