

An act ag^t Ingrossers & Reqraters./

Liber W. H.

ffor as much as hitherto noe Law hath beene made wthin this Province for Restraineing & prohibiting Ingrossing & Reqrating the vndue & to frequenting practice whereof hath beene & still is highly oppressive & Injurious to the greater parte of the Inhabitants of this Province who are by meanes thereof deprived & wholly p^rvented from the benefitt of Laying out their Cropps of Tob, or any parte thereof, with the Merchant Adventurers their ffacto^{rs} & others, bringing in all sorts of goods Merchandizes & Serv^{ts} for the purchase thereof, whilst a Couetuous & actiue presort of people, & butt few in number of the Inhabitants of this Province doe buy & purchase all or most parte of the good merchandizes & Serv^{ts} yearly brought into this Province wthout Consignem^t for the purchase of Tob, & albeitt they haue not Tob of their owne whereby to pay for the goods Merchandizes & Serv^{ts} soe by them from time to time bought & purchased, Neuerthelesse such is the necessity of the Province that within a few days after such purchase they can Reqrate the same goods Merchandizes & Serv^{ts} & with a small parte of the Tob therewith purchased pay & satisfy for all the said goods M^rchandizes & Serv^{ts} & bee Ready for another markett, thereby not only in haueing the price of all goods Merchandizes & Serv^{ts} butt making sundry Retournes in one Shipping season, & in the meane time the greater number of the Inhabitants of this Province are disabled & totally hindred from selling their Cropps of Tob, Vnlesse itt bec to & with the aforesaid Hucksters or some or one of them att their owne deare Rates & prices, for the p^rvincōn therefore of soe greate a Mischeife for the future, Bee itt enacted by the Right Honourable the L^d Prop^{ty} by & with the advice & Consent of the vpper & Lower houses of this p^rsent Gen^l Assembly & the Authority of the same, that w^tsoeuer pson or psons, that after the Twenty ffifth day of Decemb^r one Thousand six hundred eighty one shall Ingrosse or gett into his her or their handes or possession by buying Contracting or promise takeing within this Province any goods or Merchandizes whatsoever, or Serv^{ts} to the intent to sell the same againe within the space of Six months, & the same or any parte thereof, shall within that time sell againe for Ready Tob, or for Tob to bee paid the Shipping, hapning in the time of such ffirst sale, or for Tob to bee shippt for paym^t or secureing the paym^t of any bill or bills of Exchange to bee drawne for the paym^t of the said goods M^rchandizes or Serv^{ts} with intent to Elude the benefitt of this Act, or the same goods M^rchandizes or Serv^{ts} shall Transport out of this Province shall bee accepted Reputed & taken for an vnlawfull Ingross^r & Reqrat^r & shall suffer the paines penaltys & forfeitures heere-