

“ing within the said province and if any shall do any such Damage
“or Injury he shall incur the heavy displeasure of us our Heirs and
“Successors the punishment of the Laws and shall Moreover make
“Satisfaction.

L. H. J.
Liber No. 47
November 17

By which it appears that at the time of granting that Charter this province was Considered as a fishing Colony and we conceive with good reason as the sea Coast thereof as well as the Bay of Chasapeak which runs through the Province together with the rivers Creeks and Branches thereof abound with great Variety of Fish which may be made a useful Branch of Trade to the Inhabitants and be of Advantage to our Mother Country by Increasing the Number of Shipping and Seamen.

That by Statute 15 Charles 2^d Chapter 7 Section 6 it is provided and enacted that no Commodity of the Growth production or Manufacture of Europe shall be Imported into any Land Island plantation &c in Asia Africa or America &c but what shall be bona fide and without Fraud Shipped in England &c provided (Section 7) that it shall be Lawful to Ship and laid in Ships Navigated as in the foregoing Clause is expressed in any part of Europe Salt for the Fisheries of new England and Newfoundland &c And altho that proviso hath not hitherto been Construed to extend to this province with great Submission we Conceive ourselves to be clearly within the reason of it we beg leave further to represent to your Lordship that salt is an Article absolutely necessary for the Inhabitants of the Inland or Back parts of this province and without large Quantities of which it is impossible for them to Subsist for as they are far removed from the sea and salt rivers they are under a Necessity of giving salt to their Stocks of Horses Cattle &c

We think it needless to urge to your Lordship the necessity there is for giving all possible encouragement to seating the Western parts of this province &c

That the importation of salt from any part of Europe in amity with his Majesty his heirs and Successors into this province would be of Advantage to his British Navigation hither is Evident as the ships from Britain taking Freight to Portugal or other parts where salt may be had Cheap may take in Ballast of salt for this province and reload with Tobacco the produce thereof we therefore pray that your Lordship will take our case into your Consideration and the same recommend to his most gracious Majesty and both Houses of parliament in Order that an Act may pass Explaining the provision in the said Act of the 15 of Charles the Second Chapter 7 and Section 7 so as salt may be imported into this province from any part of Europe in Amity with his Majesty his heirs and Successors in Vessels owned by British Subjects and navigated according to Law. And this Indulgence we have reason to hope for from our most gracious Sovereign and the British parliament since the like has been

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