

fels shall be, and they are hereby, obliged to pay the seamen and mariners belonging to such ships or vessels, their wages if demanded, in twenty days after the said ship or vessel being entered at the naval office (except in case where a covenant shall be entered into to the contrary) or at the time the said seamen and mariners shall be discharged, which shall first happen, if demanded; deducting out of such wages the penalties and forfeitures by this act imposed, under the penalty of paying to each seaman or mariner that shall be unpaid contrary to the intent and meaning of this act, three pounds current money, over and above the wages that shall be due to each person, to be recovered before any justice of the peace, and such payment of wages aforesaid shall be good and valid in law, notwithstanding any action, bill of sale, attachment or incumbrance, whatsoever.

XL. And be it enacted, That no seaman or mariner, by entering into or signing such contract or agreement as aforesaid, shall be deprived of or hindered from using any means or methods for the recovery of wages against any ship, the master or owner thereof, which he may now lawfully make use of; and that in all cases where it shall or may be necessary, that the contract or agreement in writing aforesaid should be produced in court, no obligation shall lie on any seaman or mariner to produce the same, but on the master, owner or owners, of the ship for which the wages shall be demanded; and no seaman or mariner shall fail in any suit, action or process, for recovery of wages, for want of such agreement or contract being produced.

Seamen not to be hindered from recovering wages, &c.

XLI. And be it enacted, That if any master of any merchant ship or other vessel shall, during his being abroad, force his apprentice, or any mariner or seaman, on shore, or wilfully leave him behind at any port or place out of this state, or shall refuse to bring home with him all such of the men which he carried out, as are in a condition to return, such master shall forfeit fifty pounds current money, or suffer twelve months imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Penalty on master leaving seamen on shore, &c.

XLII. And be it enacted, That all masters of vessels shall lay in a sufficient quantity of sound and good provisions and water for the intended voyage, according to the number of hands (and passengers if any) on board, and if clearing from any port in this state, shall deliver in an account thereof to the naval officer by whom he shall be cleared; and for neglect in not providing sufficient provisions as aforesaid, he shall forfeit fifty pounds current money.

Masters to lay in provisions, &c.

XLIII. And be it enacted, That if any master of any ship (or other vessel) shall ship any mariner or seaman whom he shall know to have been before shipped by another master, he shall forfeit and pay five pounds current money for every such offence, and shall discharge such seaman or mariner from his service, under the penalty of twenty pounds current money; and if any mariner or seaman, shipped by any master, shall afterwards ship himself with any other man, until he be discharged from the ship or vessel on which he was first shipped, he shall forfeit five pounds current money to the owner of the vessel on board of which he first shipped, and suffer one month's imprisonment in the gaol of the county, and there be kept to continual and hard labour, according to his health and strength of body, to be recovered before, and adjudged by, any justice of the peace.

Penalty on shipping seamen belonging to other vessels, &c.

XLIV. And be it enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any mariner or seaman, shipped on board any vessel, to go and remain on shore at Baltimore-town, at any time between sunset and daybreak, without the leave in writing of the master of the vessel to which he belongs, and no inhabitant of Baltimore-town shall entertain any such mariner or seaman, within such time aforesaid, without permission as aforesaid, under the penalty of five pounds current money for every offence, to the owner of the vessel to which such mariner belongs.

Seamen not to go on shore between sunset, &c.

XLV. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to vessels of war belonging to this state, or the United States, or any of them, or to vessels of war belonging to any kingdom or state in peace and amity with the United States; provided also, that nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to de-

Provide.