

CHAPTER
XX.

Oath of office.

XXV. **And be it further enacted,** That the said inspector of staves and lumber shall, and he is hereby required, on his appointment, and before his executing the said office, to make oath, or affirmation if a quaker, before a justice of the peace, That he will, without fear, affection, malice, partiality or respect of persons, diligently and carefully view, examine, inspect, cull, garble and count, all staves, heading and shingles, brought to and offered for sale within the north-west branch of Patapsco river, and which he shall be called upon to view, examine, inspect, cull, garble and count, to the best of his skill and knowledge, and according to the directions of this act; and that he will not wittingly or willingly charge, ask, take, receive, exact or demand, any other or larger fees or rates for doing his duty in his said office of inspector or culler, garbler and counter, of staves, heading and shingles, than is mentioned and directed by this act.

Fire-wood to be corded, &c.

XXVI. **And,** whereas it is represented, that advantages are taken by the sellers of wood, in short measuring and cording the same, to the great prejudice of the inhabitants of the said town; **Be it therefore further enacted,** That from and after the first day of December next, all fire-wood brought to and offered for sale in the said town, whether by land or water, shall be set up, corded and measured, by some wood corder, for that purpose as aforesaid appointed, and that each and every cord of wood shall be eight feet in length, four feet in breadth, four feet in height, and well stowed and packed; and that the said wood corder, for his trouble in cording and packing the same, shall have and receive the sum of four-pence current money for each and every cord, the one half thereof to be paid by the seller, the other half by the person purchasing the same.

Penalty for neglect.

XXVII. **And be it further enacted,** That if any person shall purchase and buy any fire-wood brought to the said town, and shall neglect or refuse to have the same corded and measured by some wood corder appointed as aforesaid, such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of five shillings current money for each and every cord so purchased and bought, and which he shall refuse or neglect to have corded as aforesaid, or shall refuse or omit to request one or other of the said corders to cord, pursuant to this act.

Oath of office, &c.

XXVIII. **And be it further enacted,** That the said wood corders and each of them, so as aforesaid to be appointed, shall, and they and each of them are hereby required, on his or their appointment, and before his or their executing the said office, to make oath, or affirmation if a quaker, before a justice of the peace, That he will, when required, in a just and impartial manner, well and truly set up, pack, cord and measure, all fire-wood brought for sale to the town of Baltimore, according to the best of his skill and knowledge, and the directions of this act; and that he will not wittingly or willingly charge, ask, take, receive, exact or demand, any other or larger fees or rates for doing his duty in his said office of wood corder, than is mentioned and directed by this act; a minute of the choice of which said several officers of inspector of flour, measurers of grain, salt and flax-seed, cullers or garblers, and counters of staves, heading and shingles, weighers of hay and wood corders, and of their having taken the said oaths, shall be entered among the proceedings of the said commissioners, from time to time, as often as taken.

No wood corder to purchase fire-wood.

XXIX. **And be it further enacted,** That no wood corder or dray-man, either by himself or themselves, or by any other person or persons whatsoever, for or in trust for him or them, shall buy, trade or barter, for any fire-wood on the way to or brought to Baltimore-town or Fell's-point for sale, other than for his or their own family use, under the penalty of five shillings current money for each cord purchased contrary to this act.

Hay, &c. to be weighed.

XXX. **And be it further enacted,** That from and after the first day of December next, all hay, of what kind soever, which shall be brought by land or water to and offered for sale in the said town, shall be weighed by the officer so as aforesaid appointed, with proper scales and weights, or engines to be provided for that purpose, if he shall be thereto required, at the choice and election of either the purchaser or seller of such hay; for which trouble, he, the said hay weigher, shall have