

At a Session of ASSEMBLY, begun and held at the City of *Annapolis*, on Tuesday the Fourth Day of *October*, in the Thirteenth Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable FREDERICK, Lord Baron of *Baltimore*, Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of *Maryland* and *Avalon*, &c. *Annoque Domini* 1763, and ended the 26th *November*, the following Laws were Enacted.

HORATIO SHARPE, Esq; Governor.

C H A P. I.

An ACT for amending the Staple of Tobacco, for preventing Frauds in his Majesty's Customs, and for the Limitation of Officers Fees. Passed 26th Nov. 1763.

WHEREAS it is thought convenient by this General Assembly, to have a Law for preventing the Exportation of bad, unfound, and trashy Tobacco, and to prevent the many Frauds in deceiving his Majesty of his Customs, and for Limitation of Officers Fees: Preamble.

II. Be it therefore Enacted by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That all Tobacco which shall be exported out of this Province, from and after the last Day of *November*, Seventeen hundred and sixty-three, shall be first brought to some or one of the public Warehouses herein after mentioned, and shall be there viewed and inspected in Manner as is herein after expressed, except such Tobacco as hath been, or shall be, inspected before the said last Day of *November*, under any Act of Assembly of this Province. No Tobacco to be exported, 'til first brought to a public Warehouse.

III. And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person shall put on board, or receive into any Ship, Sloop, Boat, or other Vessel, in order to be exported therein, any such Tobacco not packed in Hogsheads, Casks or Cafes, upon any Pretence whatsoever; nor in any Hogshead, Cask or Cafe, to be in that, or any other Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, exported out of this Province, before the same shall have been viewed and inspected, according to the Directions of this Act (except as before excepted:) But that all such Tobacco, to be received or taken on board any Ship, Sloop, or other Vessel, and to be therein exported; or to be carried or put on board any other Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, for Exportation, as aforesaid; shall be received or taken on board at the several Warehouses for that Purpose herein after mentioned, or some or one of them, and at no other Place or Places whatsoever. And every Master, Mate, or Boatswain, which shall arrive in this Province, in order to lade Tobacco, during the Continuance of this Act, shall, before the said Ship or Vessel be permitted to take on board any such Tobacco, make Oath, or Affirmation if a Quaker, before the Naval Officer of the District wherein such Ship or Vessel shall arrive, (which Oath the said Naval Officer is hereby impowered and required to administer); "That they will not permit any such Tobacco to be taken on board their respective Ships or Vessels, except the same be packed in Hogsheads, Casks or Cafes, stamped by some Inspector, as by Law directed, legally thereunto appointed:" Which Oath they shall subscribe in a Book, to be kept by the Naval Officer for that Purpose. And if any such Master shall cause any Person who is not really, and *bonâ fide*, Mate or Boatswain of the Ship, or Vessel, to come on Shore All Tobacco for Exportation to be taken on board at some public Warehouse, after the same is Inspected.
An Oath to be administered to Masters, Mates, and Boatswains of Vessels, before taking Tobacco on board.
Penalty in case of Default.