

Lib. L. L.
No. 1.An Act relating to the seizure
of Tobacco by the Sherriffe.

Forasmuch as great Complaints have been made to the Delegates of this House of Assembly of the many & great inconveniencys that have lately happened and do dayly, and for the future may happen and accrew to many Merchants Masters and other persons Trading into or Inhabiting within this Province who have severall debts and sums of Tob^o due unto them from severall Persons in this Province who for satisfaction of their said Debts have paid away and delivered to their severall Creditors Severall quantities and Hogsheads of Tobacco, and such Hogsheads of Tobacco have been received markt and nayled by such Merchants Masters. and others Trading into & residing within this Province as aforesaid, And thereupon the said Creditors have delivered up to the said Debtors their Bills or other Specialties given for security of the said Debts or otherwise the said Debtors have procured released or discharged for the said Debts notwithstanding afterwards the severall Sherriffs within this Province upon pretence of Publick debts due from the said Persons Debtors, have seized the said Creditors Tobacco so recd. marked and nailed as aforesaid and lying in the said Debtors Tobacco houses, and by that means the said Creditors are left without remedy for the recovery of their said Debts again, to the great hindrance of Trade and prejudice of such Creditors And for as much also as the people of this Province are very much grieved by the severall undue Practices of severall Sherriffs of this Province, who having Authority to Collect the Publick leavies of this Province, which many times amounts to a small sum of Tobacco and coming to the severall Persons within this Province to demand and receive the same, and finding no Tobacco ready Packt do commonly mark the Inhabitants Tobacco houses wherein are far greater quantities of Tobacco then will pay the said leavys, and Order them not to dispose of any the said Tobacco till the same leavys be paid, whereby the said Inhabitants are debarred from laying out their said Tobaccos where they conveniently may, and when necessity requires to their great loss and damage for prevention whereof for the future Bee it Enacted by the King and Queens most Excellent Majesties by and with the advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly and the Authority of the same That any person or persons whatsoever Merch^{ts} or others within this Province that hath at any time within these twelve months last past received marked and nayled or for the future shall receive marke or naile any Hogsheads Tobacco within this Province of any psons Debtors within this Province and which hath been paid and delivered to them