

C. F.

This Law Repealed

An Act ascertaining the Gage and tare of Tob^o hogsheads and to prevent Cropping and defacing Tob^o taken on board Shipp^s or Vessells upon ffreight and for Laying Impositions on Tob^o per the hogshead for the Support of Government and for the Encourageing Settlements in this province by Ascertainig the Manner of paying the Alienation fines and
 p. 253 Quit rents to the Lord prop^{ty} of this province on the Conditions therein mentioned.

Forasmuch as the Laws heretofore made for Ascertainig the gage of Tob^o hh^{ds} have in great Measure proved Ineffectuall Either for want of Laying Sufficient penalties upon the Offenders or of proper Methods to Inflict them but more Especially itt seemes to this present Gen^l Assembly by requireing a Compliance with such a gauge as has been found by Experience to tend to the ruin of such Traders as were Strict observers of it the Generality of our Tob^o being of soe Light and Chaffie a Nature that it has been found wholly Impracticable and in a Manner Impossible to pack or prize soe much of itt in a hogshead of the Late gauge of thirty Inches in the Diameter of the head as would suffice for the paym^t of freight and other Charges ariseing thereon the freighters of such small hogsheads having been frequently brought in debt by the smallness of the Quantity of Tob^o contained therein to the great Damage of the Tob^o Trade particularly of the fair Traders therein which seemes in a Manner to have brought the Latest of the Aforementioned Laws allmost into a Gen^l Contempt itt being rather more Mischievous to the ffreighters to be brought in Debt by their Strict observance of that gauge
 p. 254 then to Lose their Tob^o here for Exceeding itt for remedy whereof for the future—

Be itt Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and Cons^t of his Majesties Govern^r Councill and Assembly of this province And the Authority of the same that from and after the Twenty ninth day of Scpt^r next itt shall and may be Lawfull for any person or persons whatsoever Suspecting Discovering or knowing of any hogshead or hogsheads of Tob^o that shall Exceed forty Eight Inches in the Length of the Stave or thirty two Inches in the Diameter of the head within the Croze or that shall Exceed thirty seven Inches Diameter in the bulge on any Accident or pretence whatsoever thirty six Inches Diameter in the bulge being Supposed a Competent gauge to Call to his Assistance any Justice of the peace Sherriffe Vestryman Church warden Living or residing within thc County where such Tob^o shall be suspected known or discovered and to Enter into any house