

Liber LL, 4  
Acts And Whereas many Litigious Persons have and for the future may Commence actions of trespasse upon the Case rather out of spite and malice than any real cause of action and not setting forth in the originall writt the Cause of such Action and yet Lay damage to a Vast sume to deter persons from being bayle for prevention whereof for the future.

Be it enacted by the authority advice and Consent af<sup>d</sup> that in all actions of trespass upon the Case where damages are Laid to be above four thousand pounds of tob<sup>o</sup> if no declaration be sent w<sup>th</sup> the writt Expressing the true Cause of Action the sherr shall not require a bayle bond Exceeding the sume of Eight thousand pounds of tobacco although the damages be Laid in the writt for any Greater Sume whatsoever and any sherr Offending herein shall forfeit the sume of four thousand pounds of tobacco, the one half thereof to her Maj<sup>ty</sup> her heirs and Successors for the support of Governm<sup>t</sup> the other half to the party grived to be recovered in any Court of record of this province by action of debt bill Plaint or Information wherein no Essoyn Protection or wager of law to be allowed.

And to the end that publick Creditors may be speedily Satisfyed their debts due from the publick Be it Enacted by the authority advice and Consent af<sup>d</sup> that Every publick Creditor within this province shall be at his Election to make application to the governour of this province for the time being to put such sherr<sup>s</sup> bond or bonds in suit or otherwise may Immediately have an action of debt ag<sup>t</sup> such sherriff in the County where the fact ariseth for such publick tobacco as shall be due to such Creditor, and to the End that no Officer or other Person may be surprized or unjustly molested Either upon the account of paym<sup>t</sup> or collection of publick dues.

Be it likewise Enacted by the authority af<sup>d</sup> by and with the advice and Consent af<sup>d</sup> that any person or persons haveing publick tobacco due to them or fees in any sherriffs hands to Collect and that do not signifie to such sherriff or sherr<sup>s</sup> their dependance and resolution of makeing use of the same on or before the twenty fifth day of December in the year the same shall be due to him or them shall not p. 68 have take or demand any benefitt or Advantage by this act allowed for that present Year and so every year successively nor shall the sherr of any respective County, Levy by way of Execution any publick dues or officers fees upon the body goods or Chattells of any the Inhabitants of this province, Except they have made a demand thereof at or before the twentyeth day of January for that present year and so every year successively.

And be it also Enacted by the authority advice and Consent af<sup>d</sup> that any sherr within this province haveing in his hands publick officers fees to Collect shall not presume to Levy by Execution upon the body goods and Chattells of any the Inhabitants of this province any fees to him Committed to Collect where the pson or persons from whom such fees appear to be due produce the former sherr<sup>s</sup>