

Liber LL, 4 that then and in every such Case such Master of Shippes or Vessells for
 Acts every Hoggshead of Tobacco so cut or suffered to be cut cropt or
 lessened in their Length or Breadth abused defaced or impaired to
 be proved by the Oath of any Suff^t person to whome the Tobacco is
 consign'd in Great Brittain or other Sufficent witness taken before
 any Magistrate and a Certificate thereof made by any Notary Publick
 or Magistrate and sent hither under his hand and Seale or by any
 other Legall Proof whatsoever made in this Province or else where
 shall forfeit and pay the Summe of Six hundred pounds of Tobacco or
 fifty shillings Sterling to the party Grieved to be recovered in any
 Court of Record in this Province against such Master or his Sureties
 by Accōn of Debt or on the Case within two Years after the Date of
 the Bill or Bills of lading of such Tobacco And be it Enacted by the
 Authority af^d that the Security or Securities of any Master of a Ship
 or Vessell within this Province shall be lyable to make Satisfaction
 according to this Act for the Cropping cutting abuseing defaceing and
 impairing of any Hoggshead or Hoggsheads of Tobacco as af^d and
 prosecute for the same in any Court of record within this Province
 that can hold plea thereof and that every Navall Officer within this
 Province shall on pain of Fifty Shillings Sterling certifie under his
 Hand and Seale who are the security or Securitys of any such Master
 which shall be Sufficent Evidence in any Court of Record where such
 Accōn is commenced to Prove who are the Security or Securitys of
 such Master for which Certificate the Navall Officer may have and
 receive, one shilling and no more and that the Severall and respective
 Navall Officers within this Province shall hang a fair Copy of this
 Law in their respective Offices for the perusall of All Masters of Ships
 and Vessells the said Navall Officer to have and receive for the said
 p. 306 Copy One Hundred Pounds of Tobacco to be allowed in the County
 Levy. And Forasmuch as by the Enlargement of Tob^o Hoggsheads
 from the late Gage of Thirty Inches in the Diameter of the Head to
 this present Gage a Larger Quantity of Tobacco will be exported
 in each Hoggshead whereby the Severall Duties and Imposts on
 Tobacco will be evidently retrenched and lessened unless a Just
 Regard be had to the preservation of Them in their usuall worth and
 Vallue which this present Generall Assembly is highly oblig'd to,
 those Duties being generally apply'd to the Support of Government
 and for other the most important Affaires of this Province and th^t
 therefore it is not only just but necessary that the Duties upon the
 Hoggsheads which shall be of the Gage herein directed should be
 in some sort Enlarged proportionably to the Enlargem^t of the said
 Gage It is therefore most humbly prayed that his Lordship the
 Lord Proprietarie will be favourably pleased to Grant that it may
 be Enacted And be it Enacted by his said Lordship by and with the
 Advice and Consent af^d that from and after the Twenty ninth Day
 of September next there shall be levyed Collected and raised to the
 right honourable the Lord Proprietarie his Heirs and Successors