

Session  
Laws      And whereas daily Experience shews the great Prejudice to the Owners and Masters of Merchant Ships, and Vessels, trading into this Province, by Ordinary-keepers entertaining of Sailors and others, to such Ships and Vessels belonging, and trusting, and encouraging them to continue tippling in their Houses to the Prejudice of Trade, preventing and impeding the Dispatch of such Ships and Vessels; and very often when such Sailors have spent all their Wages in such Ordinaries, it occasions and induces them to run away, and desert the Ships and Vessels whereto they belong: For Prevention whereof,

Be it Enacted, by the Authority, Advice, and Consent aforesaid, That no Ordinary-keeper whatsoever, within this Province, shall presume to harbour or entertain any Sailor, or Sailors, or other Persons employed in loading of Ships and Vessels, (the Master and Mate only excepted) to the Neglect of their Service to their respective Commanders, and Prejudice to the Dispatch of any Ship, or Vessel thereby, under the Pain and Penalty of being suspended from keeping such Ordinary: And that no Ordinary-keeper whatsoever shall credit any such Sailor, for more than Five Shillings, during any one Voyage, under the Penalty of losing his Debt, and fined to His Lordship, His Heirs, and Successors, the Sum of Twenty Shillings Current Money; whereof One Half to be applied as aforesaid, the other Half to the Informer, or him, or them, that will sue for the same; to be recovered as aforesaid, before a single Magistrate.

p. 13      And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Ordinary-keeper, within this Province, shall harbour, entertain, or sell any Liquors to any Servant belonging to any Person within this Province, without Licence from their respective Master, or Mistress, such Ordinary-keeper shall, for every such Offence, forfeit and pay Ten Shillings to the Master or Mistress of such Servant; to be recovered with Costs, upon Complaint of the said Master or Mistress, before a Justice of the County where the said Ordinary keeper lives.

And whereas it is a general Complaint throughout this Province, That Ordinary-keepers have made it their constant Practice to entertain Tradesmen, and other Persons, having Families, and no other Means of supporting them but their own Labour and Industry, and single disorderly Persons, tippling and gaming in their Houses, and wasting their Time and Substance, to the Ruin of their Families, and themselves, and the Encouragement of Idleness, Drunkenness, and all other Irregularities and Disorders: For Prevention of which Evils for the Future,

Be it Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person who shall be licensed to keep Ordinary, from and after the Publication of this Act, shall suffer any Tradesmen, or other Person, having a Family, and no visible Estate whereby to support themselves, or their