

Liber H. S. seven for the Abatement and Deduction of Tobacco Debts by any
 No. 1 Person or Persons whatsoever to his her or their own use or to
 the Use or in Trust for any other Person or Persons since the
 fifteenth day of May Seventeen hundred and forty seven shall be
 Void and of none Effect

[If execution
 be issued, in
 such case,
 the party
 may sue an
*Audita
 Querela*]

And be it further enacted That if any Judgment hath been rendered or shall be rendered and that any Execution hath been or shall be issued that the Party May sue an Audita Querela and if any Person or Persons shall be sued on any such Bond Bill Mortgage Bill of Exchange Note or other Security taken in order to elude the Provision made by this Act or the Act entituled An Act for Amending the Staple of Tobacco for Preventing frauds in his Majestys Customs and for the Limitation of Officers ffees made at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis the Sixteenth day of May Seventeen hundred and forty seven as aforesaid that the Defendant or Defendants may Plead the General Issue and give the Special Matter in Evidence and if it shall Appear to the Court or Jury who shall try the fact that the Bond Bill Mortgage Bill of Exchange Note or other Security upon which the Suit shall be commenced was given for Money in lieu or Stead of Tobacco in order to elude the Provision made by this or the said recited Act as aforesaid That the Plaintiff shall be Non Suit and pay the Defendants Costs

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[To prevent
 the Defen-
 dant from
 Injury, the
 Plaintiff
 may be
 sworn]

And to the end that no Defendant may be injured by the difficulty of Proving the facts Be it enacted That it shall and may be lawfull for the Court wherein any such Judgment hath been or shall be entered or wherein any such Action shall be commenced to examine and interrogate the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs upon his or their Oath or Affirmation in Case a Quaker or Quakers is or are concerned for what Consideration such Judgment Bond Bill Mortgage Bill of Exchange Note or other Security was Passed and if it shall Appear upon such Examination that the same was given or passed for Money instead and Lieu of Tobacco as already mentioned that then and in such Case the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be Nonsuit and pay the Defendants Costs and in Case any Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall refuse to Submit to such Examination such Refusal shall be Deemed and taken to be a Confession or Proof of the Fact

[Punish-
 ment for
 false swear-
 ing]

And be it likwise enacted That if any Plaintiff in any such Case shall knowingly Swear or Affirm falsely and be thereof Convict he She or they shall suffer as in Case of Wilfull and Corrupt Perjury

[Contract
 for Tobacco
 in specie]

Provided always and it is the true Intent and Meaning of this Act that Nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend, to Vacate or Abolish any Contract, Bargain or Agreement, made for the Payment of Tobacco in Specie before the said Sixteenth day of May seventeen hundred and forty seven but that such bargain