

the Statute of the last Session 6:45 with Fees of Office in America in Subjecting an Infant Trade to new Delays Ceremonials and Expenses tends to discourage that Spirit of Traffic which an extensive View of the interests of Great Britain would cherish in all her Subjects The Utility of this new Office Officers Fees and Ceremonials cannot here be discovered as the Naval Office erected in the Plantations long since by Act of Parliament and the Quarterly Accounts transmitted from thence would serve as a sufficient Check on the Collectors thro' whose Hands only the Kings Money passed Besides the Impolitic General System of the Statute of the 4.th Year of his present Majesty Chap 15 which not only cramps Branches of the Trade of the Colonies but will prevent the Importation in some Degree of Goods from the Advanced price occasioned by the Duties and thereby turn our Thoughts towards making others to supply their place The Clause requiring a Bond to be given and Certificate to be obtained at the Time of clearing several Vessels is looked on to be extremely grievous as the Fees of Office are thereby consequentially increased for providing the Bond tho' the Certificate is to be given Gratis and Traders are put to great Inconvenience to procure Security in distant Parts and the Difficulty is increased by the Bond not being to be cancelled or given up but upon an Order of the Commissioners of the Customs or four of them at least

L. H. J.
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In this Act it may be found that Penalties and Forfeitures incurred in England are to be prosecuted sued for and recovered in the Common Law Courts those in America in any Court of Record or in any Court of Admiralty in the respective Colony where the Offence is committed or in any Court of Vice Admiralty to be appointed over America at the Election of the Informer or prosecutor Security in Sixty Pounds to answer Costs before any Claim to be put in to any Court in America or the Ship or Goods to be condemned and where a Vessel or Goods shall be acquitted on Tryal in America and the judge certifies a probable Cause of Seizure the Def.^t to recover no Costs nor shall the Seizure be liable to any Action Suit or Information on Account of such Seizure and even where there is a Seizure but no information or further proceeding towards Condemnation and the Court or judge before whom a Trial is had in any Action for such Seizure certifies probable Cause even altho' a Verdict be given in the plts Favour Judgment for the Ship Goods or Value and two pence only to be given without Costs

Americans Sir are astonished at the last mentioned Clauses it from thence seems to them as if the Parliament esteemed it criminal to be an American How different is the Language of this Statute from that of Our Charter how different from that of the Statute for Naturalization of Foreign Protestants how different the Rule for Britons and Americans was the power of the Court of Admiralty immediately under the Inspection of the most Gracious of Kings and