

C H A P. X.

An ACT relating to the Standard of *English* Weights and Measures. *Lib. LL. N^o 4. fol. 130.*

Passed 3d June 1715.

WHEREAS the Standards of *English* Weights and Measures are very much impaired in several of the Counties of this Province; and in some, wholly lost, or unfit for Use. Preamble.

II. *Be it Enacted, by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same,* That the Justices of the several County Courts shall, by all convenient Speed, at the Charge of their respective Counties, cause the Standards they already have, to be made compleat, and purchase new Standards where they have none. And for the better Preservation of them for the future, that they take good and sufficient Security, in his Majesty's Name, to the Use of the County where taken, from the Persons that shall be intrusted by them to keep such Standard, in the penal Sum of Fifty Pounds Sterling, "for the safe Keeping such Standard, and for the due Execution of the Office of Standard-Keeper, and for the delivering the same up in the like good Order they receive the same, when they shall be legally discharged from such Trust;" under the Penalty of Five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco for each Justice of that County Court that shall omit to do what is required of them by this Act; the one Half to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, for the Support of Government, the other Half to the Informer, or to him or them that shall sue for the same; to be recovered in the Provincial Court of this Province against such Justices, jointly or severally, by Action of Debt, Bill, Complaint or Information, wherein no Essoin, Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

The County Justices, to compleat their Standards, or purchase new ones at the County Charge, and take Security of 50 l. Sterling, from their Standard Keeper, &c.

under Penalty of 500 lb Tobacco each.

III. *And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid,* That all Persons, whether Inhabitants or Foreigners, shall repair and bring their Steelyards with which they weigh and receive their Tobacco, to the Standard yearly, and every Year, to be tried, stamped and numbered; for which they are to pay the Person keeping the Standard One Shilling for every Time such Steelyards shall be tried and stamped as aforesaid. And every Person or Persons shall have their Bushel, Half-Bushel, Peck, Gallon, Pottle, Quart and Pint, if they make Use of the same, or any of them, in Buying or Selling, duly tried and stamped at the Standard aforesaid, except such of the Measures aforesaid, as come out of *England*, and are there stamped; for which trying and stamping they shall pay Six-pence a Piece.

Steelyards for receiving Tobaccos, to be tried, stamped, &c. yearly.

And Measures used for buying or selling; unless stamped in *England*.

IV. *And* whosoever shall presume to sell by any Dry-Measures, without first having the said Measures tried and stamped at the Standard, shall forfeit the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco.

No Person to sell by dry Measures unstamped, &c.

V. *And* whosoever, likewise, shall presume to weigh and receive Tobacco by Steelyards which have not, within One Year past from such weighing and receiving, been tried and stamped at the Standard, shall forfeit One Thousand Pounds of Tobacco, the one Half of which aforesaid Forfeitures to be paid to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, towards the defraying the Charge of the County where the Offender shall dwell or reside, and the other Half to the Informer or Informers; to be recovered in any County Court of this Province, by Bill, Complaint or Information, wherein no Essoin, Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

Persons receiving Tobacco by Steelyards not tried, &c. within the Year, forfeit 1000 lb Tobacco,

VI. *And* if any Person or Persons shall refuse to pay any Tobacco by such Steelyards, tried and stamped as aforesaid, and shall thereby compel the Owner

When Steelyards are questioned,