

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That nothing contained in this act shall be so construed as to affect an act to provide for the inspection of ground black oak bark intended for exportation, and a supplement thereto. Explanatory.

CASKS.

AN ACT for the Regulating the Gauging of Casks in the Town of Baltimore.—1774, ch. 23.

WHEREAS, great abuses are daily committed in the buying and selling of wine, rum, and other liquid merchandises, in disproportionable casks, in Baltimore town, which have been usually gauged by the diagonal, which is known not to be an exact rule to find the contents of a disproportionable cask, and the persons selling such commodities commonly refusing to submit to any other method or rule of gauging, the purchaser is thereby imposed upon, and often suffers great loss in want of just measure; for the redress of which abuse for the future in the town aforesaid, Preamble.

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted, by the right honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the advice and consent of his Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the authority of the same*, That if any merchant or other person whatsoever shall sell, or put to sale, any butt, tun, pipe, hogshead, barrel, or other cask of rum, wine, molasses, or other liquid merchandise, imported, brought into or made in the said town, before the gauger hereafter mentioned, or his deputy, shall have plainly and truly set down or marked upon the head of such vessel the capacity and full contents of the same, according to the standard and excise of wine measure, by the gallon, each person or persons shall forfeit, for the uses directed in this act, the sum of eight pounds current money for every cask so sold or put to sale. Casks, &c. to be gauged, &c.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That if any merchant or other person shall sell, or put to sale, any such rum, wine, molasses, or other liquid merchandises, as aforesaid, in the said town of Baltimore, in any cask or vessel having the number of gallons set down and marked on the head of such vessel, and the same shall be found to lack of the contents marked on the said vessel, such person shall forfeit and pay, to the uses directed in this act, the sum of eight shillings current money for every gallon marked or numbered on the said cask more than it will truly contain. Penalty for selling casks lacking measure &c.

SEC. 4. *And*, to the end that all persons dealing in such merchandise may the more easily and readily be informed and assisted in discovering the true quantity of such liquid merchandise, so imported, brought into, or made in the said town; *Be it further enacted*, That the person who shall be appointed Gauger to be appointed, &c.