

tobacco received, marked and nailed, for any cause whatsoever, but only for levies due to the public, county, parish, or for the forty per poll to the minister; and the several sheriffs are hereby empowered to break the lock of any tobacco-house, or other houses where tobacco is or shall be secured, with design to prevent the said sheriff from seizing such tobacco for levies and dues as aforesaid; and any sheriff so seizing or marking any hogshead or hogsheads of tobacco containing more than what is justly due for levies and dues as aforesaid, without satisfaction to the person to whom such tobacco doth belong, as by giving credit, or suffering him to take the overplus out of such hogshead of tobacco, at the choice of the party paying or owing the same, shall pay for every such default the sum of two thousand pounds of tobacco, one-half to his majesty, his heirs and successors, for support of government, the other half to the party grieved, to be recovered in any court of record of this province by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, wherein no essoin, protection or wager of law to be allowed.

The public dues are now collected in dollars and cents.

SEC. 2. See preceding note.

Bail bond not to exceed eight thousand pounds of tobacco, &c.

SEC. 3. *And*, whereas many litigious persons have, and for the future may commence actions of trespass upon the case, rather out of spite and malice than any real cause of action, and although they set not forth in the original writ the cause of such action, yet lay their damage to a vast sum, to deter persons from being bail; for prevention whereof for the future, *Be it enacted by the authority, advice and consent aforesaid*, That in all actions of trespass upon the case, where damages are laid to be above four thousand pounds of tobacco, if no declaration be sent with the writ, expressing the true cause of action, the sheriff shall not require a bail bond exceeding the sum of eight thousand pounds of tobacco, although the damages be marked on the writ for any greater sum whatsoever; and any sheriff offending herein shall forfeit the sum of four thousand pounds of tobacco, the one-half thereof to his majesty, his heirs and successors, for the support of government, the other half to the party grieved, to be recovered in any court of record of this province, by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, wherein no essoin, protection or wager of law to be allowed.

SEC. 4. The laws regulating the responsibilities of the various public officers, authorize actions to be sustained on official copies of their ministerial bonds.

SEC. 5. Altered by the laws relating to officers' fees.

No sheriff shall execute, &c.

SEC. 6. *And be it also enacted by the authority, advice and consent aforesaid*, That any sheriff within this province, having in his hands public officers' fees to collect, shall not presume to levy, by execution, upon the body, goods and chattels of any