

notwithstanding the secretaries of this Province were by the
said Act obliged for the time ensuing the Publication thereof
to deliver unto every respective Master a Copy of the said Law
for such fee or Reward as by the said Law was limited and
allowed, annually unloaded and cast forth their Ballast in
such Creeks and Harbours where they usually ride to lade
in their loading to the great damage of the chiefe & most
Eminent Harbours within this Province by reason of soe
great Number of ships as yearly in them do reside for pre-
vention whereof for the future. **BE** it enacted by the
King and Queens most Excellent Majesty by and wth the
advice and consent of this present Generall Assembly & the
Authority of the same, That from and after the Publication
of this Act no Person or Persons whatsoever whether In-
habitant or Forreigner here Trading in ships or Vessells of great
or lesser Burthen having a Deck shall unload or cast out of
their said ships or Vessells any kind of ballast into the Harb^{rs}
or Creeks where they usually ride and do not carry it to the
Shore and lay it above High water Marke, shall for every
such default forfeit and pay two thousand pounds of In-
teresse, the one half to Our Sovereign Lord and Lady the
King and Queen to be employed for the Support of Govern^{ment}
and the other Moety to him or them that shall sue for the
same to be recovered by Action of debt or Information wherein
no Esgyne Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

And