

Suspicion of having Goods on Board for which he hath not cleared, It shall be Lawful for the said Naval Officer to Enter on Board any such Ship or Vessel, and the same to Search for any such Goods as aforesaid, any thing in this Act before mentioned notwithstanding.

An Act for the preservation of several Harbours within this Province.

WHEREAS divers persons as well the Inhabitants of this Province as Foreigners hitherto trading in Ships of great Burthen, as also in other small Vessels have notwithstanding Laws formerly Enacted against the unloading of Ballast in the Creeks or Harbours where they usually Ride within this Province, in contempt of the said Laws, or by pleading Ignorance of them, notwithstanding the Secretarys 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 a Reward as by the said Law was limited and allowed, Annually unloaded and cast out their Ballast in such Creeks and Harbours where they usually Ride to take in their Loading, to the great damage of the chiefest and most eminent Harbours within this Province, by reason of so great number of Ships as yearly in them do Reside, for prevention whereof for the future,

BE IT ENACTED by the King and Queens most Excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and Consent of this present General Assembly and the Authority of the same, That from and after the publication of this Act no person or persons whatsoever, whether Inhabitant or Foreigner here Trading in Ships or Vessels of greater or lesser Burthen having a Deck, shall unload or cast out of their said Ships or Vessels any kind of Ballast into the Harbours or Creeks where they usually Ride; and do not lay it to the Shoar, and lay it above high water mark, shall for every such default forfeit and pay two thousand pounds of Tobacco, the one halfe our Sovereign Lord and Lady the King and Queen to be employed for the Support of Government, and the other moiety to him or them that shall Sue for the same, to be Recovered by Action of Debt, or Information wherein no Escoyn Protection or Wager of Law to be allowed.

And be It further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid. That every respective Naval Officer within this Province, or Collector for the time being, or that hereafter shall be, during the continuance of this Act, shall be obliged at their own proper Costs, to take out a Copy of this Act from the Office where the Original Transcript of the Copy of the Laws shall be kept Signed by the Keeper of the said Laws, and the same after their respective Office Doors, to the End all Commanders and Masters of Ships or other Vessels Decked or aforesaid may have due Cognizance thereof on forfeiture of two thousand pounds of Tobacco, the one half to our Sovereign Lord and Lady the King and Queen to be employed for the use intent and purpose aforesaid, the other half to the Informer, to be Recovered as aforesaid, any thing in the former Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

An Act for settling a Standard both English Weight and Measure in the several and respective Counties within this Province.

WHEREAS daily Experience shows that much Fraud and Deceit is practised in this Province of Maryland, by false Weights and Measures, for prevention whereof for the future,

BE IT ENACTED by the King and Queens most Excellent Majesty's Authority by and with the Advice and Consent of this present General Assembly and the Authority of the same, That no Inhabitant or Trader hither shall buy or sell or convey any Goods or in Trading any other Weights and Measures then are used and made according to the Statute of Henry the VII. King of England in that case made and provided, and for discovery of abuses of this nature, Be It Enacted that the Justices of the Peace and County Courts shall from time to time, & as often as need shall require, nominate some able or discreet Person in their County living & residing convenient for the purpose, to take care of, look after, & preserve the standard weights & Measures that are remaining in their respective Counties, which persons so nominated and appointed, are hereby required within six Months after the