

53 To prevent the importing too great a number of Irish Papists &c.

Shillings Sterling per Pole for the use aforesaid, on penalty and forfeiture of five pounds Sterling per Pole for every Negro kept back or unaccounted for, to be applied for the uses aforesaid, and to be recovered as aforesaid.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that from and after the publication hereof all Masters of Ships or other Vessels that shall either by land or water import any Rum or Wine into this Province shall pay unto the Naval Officer aforesaid where they make their entry the Sum of three pence per gallon for every gallon of Rum or Wine so imported into this Province as aforesaid, to be apply'd for the uses aforesaid, Liquors from England always excepted.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, &c. that all Ships or other Vessels which have been built in this Province or hereafter shall be built as aforesaid, which are solely and wholly belonging to the inhabitants thereof, shall be wholly exempted & acquitted from paying the imposition of three pence per gallon aforesaid.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that no Rum or Wine upon which the dutys aforesaid are assessed shall be landed or put on shoar out of any Ship or other Vessel which shall import the same, or any other without due entry thereof made with the Officer thereby appointed ( upon Oath of the said person or persons importing any of the aforesaid liquors ) for collecting the same, in the Port or place where such liquors shall happen to be imported as aforesaid, or before the duty due and payable for the same be satisfied or secured to be satisfied, and a Warrant for the landing thereof be signed by the Officer for that purpose appointed upon pain and peril that all such liquors landed and put on shoar contrary to the true intent and meaning of this Act shall be forfeited and lost, or the full value thereof, one half to be appropriated towards the defraying of the publick Leavy of this Province, and the other half to the informer or him or them that shall sue for the same, to be recovered in his Majestys Name, in any of his Majestys Courts of Record within this Province by Action of debt bill plaint or information, wherein no citizen protection or wager of Law to be allowed.

And for the better encouragement of all Masters, Merchants, Owners and other persons whatsoever to make due entry and payment of the dutys, rates and imposts laid by this Act, in consideration of leakage and other damages, the Officer is hereby authorized and impowered to make allowance and abatement of 20 gallons in every hundred gallons of all such liquors so to be duly entered as aforesaid, and the officers hereby appointed for collecting and gathering the dutys aforesaid, shall and are hereby impowered upon any suspicion of fraud or deceit by any importer owner or proprietor of any such liquors, in concealing and not making due entry of the same, to go and enter on board any Ship or Vessel, or into any house or ware house on shoar, and from thence to seize, bring on shoar or secure all such liquors for which the dutys aforesaid are not duly paid or secured to be paid as aforesaid, and that the said officers and their deputies may freely stay and remain on board until the goods are delivered and discharged out of the said Ship or Vessel, and all officers as well military as civil of this Province, and all masters and officers of ships are hereby required and enjoyned to be aiding and assisting to such Naval Officers in discharging of their duty aforesaid, for all which the said officers and others assisting them shall be saved and kept harmless by virtue of this Act.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that all such Naval Officers shall give good security to the Government of this Province for the time being, to make their several Watchs well and faithfully to gather the impost so arising by virtue of this Act or any clause herein contained, and adjust & faithfully to receive twice a year, and to give and render to the publick Treasurer of this Province for the time being authority for receiving the said impost, for which the said Officers shall be paid by the Admiralty 1/4 per Cent who are to give good Bond for the same, to be accountable and render account to the next meeting of Admiralty and by them disposed of towards the defraying of the publick leavy aforesaid Province.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that every Master of a Master or other Vessel at the time of the entry of such Ship or Vessel wherein five Imports shall be imported as aforesaid, shall render upon oath an account of the quantity and quality of liquor aforesaid, and several & respective Naval Officers within