

of the peace in the severall and respective Countys of this Province shall be and are by this Act authorized impower'd & required to levy and raise a Fund to satisfie and discharge the same by an equal assessment by the pole upon the taxable persons in the severall Countys of this Province. And for the more easie and better carrying Tobacco to or from any Towns Ports or publick Landings in this Province on board any Ship or Vessel or from one Port or Town to another within this Province, Be it Enacted that it shall & may be lawful to & for any person or persons whatsoever to take on board any open Boat or Vessel being eighteen Foot or under by the Keel any Tobacco and transport the same from one Landing Town or Port to another, or from any Port or Town on board any Ship or Vessel within this Province without any Permit to be taken for the same from any the Naval Officers or Collectors of this Province, and if any tobacco shall be shipt off from any Landing Town or Port within this Province in order to be carry'd to another Port or Town or on board any Ship or Vessel within this Province in any open Boat Sloop Shallop or other Vessel being above eighteen Foot by the Keel, the Owner or Master of such open Sloop Shallop Boat or Vessel shall give security to the Naval Officers in the Sum of forty pounds Sterling nor to carry the same out of this Province, and shall be obliged to take and the Naval Officer to give a yearly Permit to such Sloop Shallop Boat or Vessel for the same, for which yearly Permit the Naval Officer shall take and receive for his Fee the Sum of two Shillings & six pence and no more.

And be it further Enacted that the Standard of Weights and Measures appointed to be kept in the severall Countys of this Province shall from and after the first day of *September* 1708 be kept at such Towns in the severall Countys of this Province where the Court-house of the said County shall be built, which shall always be at such Town as is nearest the center of the County and most convenient for the inhabitants of the severall Countys of this Province (except only where the Court-houses are appointed by this Act) and that no person or persons whatsoever using any Measures or Weights shall presume to sell any commoditys whatsoever by such Weights or Measures or receive any tobacco by any Stilliards without trying them with the Standard before they make use thereof, according to the direction of the Act of Assembly intituled *an Act relating to the Standard of English Weights & Measures*, and incurring the penalties by the said Act imposed.

And forasmuch as many of the inhabitants of this Province live remote from Towns and cannot get their Tobacco thither or weighty goods from thence but by water carriage, Be it Enacted that the severall & respective Commissioners appointed for laying out of Towns within the severall Countys of this Province or any five of them shall be and are hereby authorized impower'd and required at any time hereafter to appoint in the severall and respective Countys of this Province publick landing places where Tobacco may be brought to in order to be water-borne and carry'd to any Town of this Province or goods brought from any Town and landed at such landings for the use of the inhabitants of this Province, which said Commissioners shall purchase of and from the owners of the land where such landing places are half an acre of ground convenient to such landing place whereon to build rowling houses to be paid for to such owners by the partys to whom the same shall be allotted: And if such Commissioners cannot agree with the owners thereof, or if the owners be absent out of this Province or any ways disabled from making such sale, the said Commissioners shall have the same power & authority to take up and cause the same to be survey'd and laid out as they have to survey & lay out any Town Lands within this Province, and shall proceed therein in all things according to the powers & directions by the said recited Town Law to them given, and shall appoint what number of rowling houses shall be built at such landing places, and to whom the same shall appertain & be allotted. Provided always, that such land to build rowling houses upon shall not lye above two Furlongs from the water in any County of this Province, and that the Surveyors for doing the same shall be paid by the County Levy at the discretion of the Commissioners.

And forasmuch as it hath been represented to this present General Assembly that the Port & Town on *Beckwiths Island* in *Patuxent River* in *St. Marys County* doth not contain one hundred Acres of Land, and that it hath been laid out and divided into Lots, leaving a Strand next the River which proves very incomodious to and discourages many persons to build and settle there. Be it Enacted that the Commissioners for Towns in *St. Marys County* shall be & are hereby authorized impower'd & required on or before the said first day of *September* 1707 again to lay out and divide the said Island called *Beckwiths Island* into Lots Streets Lanes & Allies with out any Strand to be left next the Water, and that the said Commissioners or any five of them shall be and are hereby authorized impower'd & required to lay out so much Land on the said Island at such place as in their discretion they shall think meet & convenient whereon to erect Forts and publick Buildings, and the Land that shall remain after such laying out of Ground for Forts and publick Buildings with Streets Lanes & Allies shall be laid out and divided into one hundred Lots (saving the rights of such persons that have already built in the said Town) at the discretion of the said Commissioners, and the said Port & Town shall not be extended or laid out upon any Land but the Island only, any thing in the said former Law to the contrary notwithstanding.