

C H A P.
XVIII.

Penalty.

or Inspectors), under the Penalty of Two Hundred and Forty Pounds of Tobacco for every Hundred Pounds Weight of Tobacco, and so in Proportion for a greater or less Quantity, so Bought or Received, or procured to be Consigned or Laden on board such Vessel; to be recovered before One Magistrate, as in Case of small Debts, where the Forfeiture does not exceed Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, and where it exceeds Six Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, in any Court of Record, with Costs of Suit, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information; one Half thereof to the Use of the Informer, and the other to the several and respective Counties, to defray the Expence that hath or may accrue in the due Execution of this Act. **Provided always,** That nothing herein contained shall be construed to hinder any Inspector from receiving his own proper Debts or Rents in Tobacco, which shall be first viewed, examined, and stamped, according to the Directions of this Act.

But may receive their own Debts, &c. in inspected Tobacco.

Inspectors not to accept of any Fee, or Reward, other than allowed in this Act.

Penalty.

Persons offering them any Bribe or Reward;

Penalty.

LXI. And, for the further and better Direction of the Inspectors aforesaid in their Duty, **Be it Enacted,** That no Inspector shall take, accept, or receive, directly or indirectly, any Gratuity, Fee, or Reward, for any Thing by him to be done in pursuance of this Act, other than his Salary, and the other Payments and Allowances herein before mentioned and expressed. And if any Inspector shall take, accept, or receive any such Gratuity, Fee, or Reward, every such Inspector, being thereof convicted, shall forfeit and pay Eight Thousand Pounds of Tobacco; to be recovered with Costs, by any Person or Persons who shall inform, or sue for the same, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any Court of Record within this Province: And moreover shall be disabled from holding the Place or Office of an Inspector, or any other Office, during the Continuance of this Act. And if any Person or Persons shall offer any Bribe, Reward, or Gratuity, to any Inspector, for any Thing by him to be done in pursuance of this Act, other than the Fees and Allowances herein before mentioned and appointed, every Person so offending, and being thereof convicted, shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay Sixteen Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, to be recovered in any Court of Record within this Province; to the Uses in this Act hereafter mentioned.

Persons refusing to accept Tobacco offered by Inspectors in Payment; the same to be decided by Three skilful Planters appointed by a Magistrate.

The Three Planters to be Sworn.

LXII. And be it further Enacted, That when any Person shall be entitled to receive a Hoghead of Tobacco, by virtue of any Inspector or Inspectors Notes or Receipts, the Inspector or Inspectors shall be obliged to open the Hoghead, and shew such Tobacco to the Person demanding the same, and also re-weigh the same if required, whether such Tobacco be Crop or Transfer: And if such Person shall refuse to accept of the Tobacco offered or tendered in Payment, as bad, unsound, and unmerchantable, such Person so refusing and not accepting thereof, shall make immediate Application to any One Justice of the Peace, in the County where such Warehouse shall be, at which the Tobacco so refused shall be offered or tendered in Payment, who is no ways related to the Parties, nor concerned in Interest; and the said Justice, by Warrant under his Hand, shall immediately appoint Three of the most able Planters, well skilled in Tobacco, and who are no ways related to the Parties, or concerned in Interest, to view and examine the said Tobacco; which said Three Planters so as aforesaid appointed, shall immediately repair before some Justice, and shall take an Oath, or Affirmation if a Quaker, before such Justice, (which Oath, or Affirmation, such Justice is hereby impowered and required to administer), "*Carefully to view and examine the said Tobacco, and to the best of their Skill and Judgment, not to pass any Tobacco that is not sound, well-conditioned, merchantable, and clear of Trash, according to the Directions of this Act; and that they will therein do their Duty, according to their Judgment and Conscience, without Fear, Favour, Affection, Malice, or Partiality:*" Which said Three Planters, so sworn, are hereby directed, impowered, and required, upon such Application, to repair to the Warehouse, where such Tobacco shall be offered or tendered in Payment, and carefully to