

XX. **And be it further enacted,** That the said measurers of grain, salt and flax-seed, and hay-weighers, and each of them, so as aforesaid to be appointed, shall, and they and each of them are hereby required, on his or their appointment, and before his or their executing the said office, to make oath, or affirmation if a quaker, before a justice of the peace, That they and each of them, when required, will well and truly, according to the best of his or their skill and knowledge, measure all grain, salt and flax-seed, and weigh all hay, without any fear, favour, affection, malice or partiality, whatever, to the buyer or seller; and that they, and each of them, will not willingly or wittingly charge, ask, take, receive, exact or demand, any other or larger fees or rates for doing his or their duty, in his or their office, than is mentioned and directed by this act.

C H A P.
XX.

Oath of office.

XXI. **And,** whereas the preventing frauds and abuses in culling and counting staves, heading and shingles, large quantities of which are exported, will tend to advance the credit of the same at foreign markets, and promote the trade and commerce of the said town of Baltimore; **Be it therefore enacted,** That from and after the first day of December next, all staves, heading and shingles, brought to and offered for sale within the said north-west branch of Patapsco, shall be submitted to the examination of the officer so as aforesaid to be appointed for that purpose; and if the said officer shall find the same sound, and fit for exportation, he shall count, cull and garble the same, in a just and impartial manner between the buyer and seller; for which trouble, he, the said officer, shall receive and have as follows, to wit: For every customary thousand of pipe staves, two shillings current money; for every customary thousand of hoghead staves, or hoghead heading, one shilling and eight-pence current money; and for every customary thousand of barrel staves, one shilling current money; and for every thousand shingles, six-pence current money; the one half thereof to be paid by the buyer, the other half by the seller.

Staves, &c. to be examined; &c.

XXII. **Provided always, and be it further enacted,** That where, at any time hereafter, any disputes shall arise, between the officer and the owner or possessor of any of the staves, heading or shingles, herein before mentioned, concerning the same, upon application made by the owner or possessor thereof to any one magistrate of Baltimore county, he shall issue his warrant to three indifferent judicious persons of skill and integrity, directing them to view and examine the said staves, heading or shingles, which said three persons so as aforesaid appointed, shall take the same oath, or affirmation if a quaker, as by this act is herein after directed to be taken by the said inspector or culler, garbler and counter, of staves, heading and shingles, and shall carefully view, inspect, examine, cull, garble and count, the same; and if they, or any two of them, on such review, shall find, pass and declare, the same to be sound, merchantable and fit for exportation, then the same staves, heading or shingles, shall be passed and allowed, and the officer shall pay the cost of the said review; but if, on such review, the judgment of the said officer shall be confirmed, then the said owner or possessor of such staves, heading or shingles, shall pay the cost of such review; for which review, each of the said reviewers shall have and receive the sum of eight-pence current money, for every thousand of the said staves, heading or shingles.

In case disputes shall arise, how to proceed.

XXIII. **And be it further enacted,** That it shall not be lawful for any person to export the said staves, heading or shingles, so adjudged and determined unsound, or not fit for exportation, out of this province, or any staves, heading or shingles, not counted, culled and garbled, as aforesaid, from any landing on the north side of Patapsco river, or out of the north-west branch of the said river of Patapsco, on pain of forfeiture of ten shillings current money for each and every thousand so shipped and exported.

Unsound staves, &c. not to be exported, &c.

XXIV. **Provided always, and be it enacted,** That nothing herein contained shall debar any cooper or carpenter from purchasing a sufficient quantity of staves, heading or shingles, to make up into cask, or be used in building, in the way of his or their business, so always that he shall not buy any of the cullings which he may have before adjudged to be unmerchantable.

Proviso.

XXV. **And**