

An Act against Ingrossers and Re-grators.

What shall be
deemed engrossing
and regrating.

FORASMUCH as the Offences of Fore-stalling Ingrossing, and Re-grating are found mischievous and prejudicial to the Inhabitants of this Province, *Be it Enacted by the Queens most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of her Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same,* That whatsoever Person or Persons that from and after the Publication hereof, shall ingross or get into his, her or their hands or possession, by buying, contracting or promise taking, within this Province, any Goods or Merchandizes whatsoever, or Servants, to the Intent to sell the same again within the space of six Months, and the same, or any part thereof, shall within that time sell again for ready Tobacco, or for Tobacco to be paid the Shipping happening at the Time of such first Sale, or for Tobacco to be shipped for payment, or securing the payment of any Bill or Bills of Exchange, or for ready Money, or Bills of Exchange to be drawn for Payment of the said Goods, Merchandizes or Servants, with intent to avoid the Penalties by this Act hereafter provided and imposed, or the said Goods, Merchandizes or Servants shall Transport out of this Province, shall be accepted, reputed and taken for an unlawful Ingrosser and Re-grator, and shall suffer such Pains, Penalties and Forfeitures as are hereafter Expressed, any Law, Statute, Usage or Custum to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

The Penalties for

First Offence.

Second Offence.

Third Offence.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons from and after the Publication hereof, offend in any the things before recited, and being thereof duly convicted by confession of the Party, or the Oaths of two Witnesses before the Justices of the Provincial Court, or the Justices of the County Courts, for the Time being, where the Offences were committed, shall for his, her or their first Offence have or suffer imprisonment for the space of two Months, without Bail or Mainprize, and shall also lose and forfeit the value of the Goods, Merchandizes or Servants so by him or them bought and had. And if any Person or Persons, lawfully convicted as aforesaid, of or for the second offence, every such person or persons so offending shall have and suffer for his or their second Offence imprisonment for the space of one half Year, without Bail or Mainprize, and shall lose double the Value of all the Goods, Merchandizes and Servants so by him or them bought or had, as aforesaid.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons being lawfully convicted, as aforesaid, of or for the second Offence, and shall again offend the third time, and be thereof lawfully convicted, that then every person for the third Offence shall be set in the Pillory, in the City, Town, or in the full County, where he shall then Inhabit and dwell, and lose and Forfeit all the Goods and Chattles he or have to their own Use, and also be committed to Prison, there to remain during the term of one whole Year, the one moiety of all which Forfeitures to be to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her Heirs and Successors, for the support of the Government of this Province, and the other Moiety thereof to the Informer, or him or them that shall sue for the