

An Act Restraining Victuallers and Keepers of publick Houses from entertaining Sailors to the prejudice of Trade and Commerce.

Whereas the Masters and Commanders of the severall Merchant Ships Trading into this Province, and the severall Merchants and Traders therein have Represented unto this General Assembly That severall Persons keeping Victualling Houses or publick Houses of Entertainment for Lucre and Gain, do make it their Practice to draw in and entertain the Sea-Men belonging to the severall Ships, and give them too great Credit, not only to the Ruin of them, their Wives and Children, but also to the Hindrance of the Ships Lading, whereby the Charge of the Ships are greatly augmented, and Trade in General delayed and discouraged, for the Prevention whereof,

And Be it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of her Majesty's President, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That if any Victualler or keeper of any publick House within this Province, shall, after the first Day of January next, Trust any Sea-faring Man, Sailor or Sea-man, (not being an Inhabitant of this Province, and generally residing in the same) for any Sum or Sums of Money above the Value of Five Shillings, in any Voyage, without Leave or Licence from the Commander of the Ship or Vessel to which he belongs, upon Pain of loosing their Debt; and if such Victualler or other Person, keeping a Publick House shall take any Bond, Bill, Note or Bill of Exchange, or any other Speciality or Obligation for any Debt contracted by any Sailor or Sea man belonging to any Ship or Vessel, and not being an Inhabitant as aforesaid, such Bond, Bill, Note or Bill of Exchange, or other Speciality or Obligation, shall be Void, and of no Effect.

No Victualler or keeper of a publick House to trust any sailor.

For above 5 s. per Voyage without leave

The Penalty is loss of Debt and Obligations taken for such Debts are void

And be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent aforesaid, That if any Victualler or keeper of any Publick House, as aforesaid, shall entertain or harbour any Sailor or Sea-man, without Licence from the Master or Commander of the Ship or Vessel to which he belongs, to the Delay and Hindrance of the Business of such Ship or Vessel, or the Commanders thereof, such Victualler or keeper of a Publick House, or House of Entertainment, shall be lyable to, and incur the Pains and Penalties in the Act of Assembly of this Province, inflicted on such as Entertain and deal with Servants, any Law, Statute, Usage or Custom to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Nor shall such persons harbour sailors.

The Penalty

Provided, That this Act or any Thing therein contained shall not extend to the Master or Chief Mate of any Ship or Vessel.

Masters and Chief Mates excepted.

An Act prohibiting the Exportation of the Hides of Neat-Cattle, whether Tanned or Untanned, and Old Iron out of this Province.

BE it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of her Majesty's President, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That if any Person or Persons whatsoever