

An Act laying an Imposition on Negroes, and on Several Sorts of Liquors imported, and also on Irish Servants, to prevent the Importing two great a Number of *Irish Papists* into this Province.

9 d. per Gallon on Liquors Imported by Land.

and where to be Landed.

Penalty,

the Payment of that only enforced

20 per Cent. may be abated for Leakage.

Liquors forfeited if Loaded before Duty paid.

After Payment, Permits to be granted.

3 d. per Gallon on Liquors Imported by Sea.

BE it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Majesty's Governour, Council and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the End of this Present Sessions of Assembly, the Importer or Importers of *Rum, Spirits, Wine and Brandy* from *Pennsylvania*, and the Territories thereto belonging, by Land, shall for every Gallon of the said Liquors, so Imported into this Province, pay unto the *King's Majesty*, his Heirs and Successors, for defraying the Publick Charges of this Province, to be Collected by the Naval Officer of *Cæcil County* District, for the time being, or his sufficient Deputy, the Sum of *Nine Pence* in ready Current Money of this Province, and shall bring the same Liquors into this Province to the Place commonly called *Bohemia Landing*, and to no other Place or Landing, till the Duties thereof be paid, under Penalty of forfeiting to the King's Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, all such before mentioned Liquors, which shall be brought to any other Place, contrary to the Intent of this Act, or the value thereof in ready Money, one moiety of the said Forfeiture to the *King's Majesty*, his Heirs and Successors, for the support of Government of this Province, and the other Moiety to the Informer, to be Recovered in any Court of Record in this Province, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no *Essoyn, Protection or Wager of Law* to be allowed.

And to the end that the said *Nine Pence per Gallon* may be exactly paid and Collected, *Be it Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent* *aforsaid*, That before the said Liquors shall be Water-born in *Chesapeake-Bay*, the Importer or Importers shall make entry thereof, upon Oath, with the Naval Officer of *Coecil County* District, of the Number of Casks, and the Contents thereof; which Oath the said Naval Officer, by virtue of this Act, shall have Authority to Administer; and of the full Contents the said Naval Officer may abate *Twenty Per Cent*, for Leakage, and other Damage to be sustained, and no more.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority, Advice and Consent *aforsaid*, That if the Importer or Importers *aforsaid*, after he hath brought the said Liquors to *Bohemia Landing* *aforsaid*, shall put the said Liquors on Board any Vessel in *Chesapeake-Bay*, or any the Rivers, Creeks or Harbours thereto belonging, before the Duty *aforsaid*, shall be paid in ready Money, as *aforsaid*, that then the Importer or Importers shall forfeit the said Liquors, or the Value thereof in ready Money, to the Uses *aforsaid*, to be recovered as *aforsaid*.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority *aforsaid*, That when the Importer or Importers *aforsaid* have made fair Entries, as *aforsaid*, and paid the Duty, as *aforsaid*, that then the Naval Officer shall give the said Importer a Permit to carry the same to any River, Creek or Harbour, or Port or Place of this Province, to make Sale of the same.

Provided always, That if any Person or Persons shall Import any the Liquors *aforsaid* from *Pennsylvania* *aforsaid*, in Sloops or other Vessels by