

An Act for Settling the Rates of Foreign Silver Coins within this Province. D^o 38.

WHEREAS Her Majesty having had under Consideration the different Rates, at which several Species of Foreign Coins do pass in Her several Plantations, and the Inconveniencies thereof by the indirect Practice of Drawing the Money from one Plantation to another, did issue Her Royal Proclamation, bearing Date the Eighteenth Day of *June*, One thousand seven hundred and four, for Settling and Ascertaining the Current Rates of Foreign Coins in Her said Plantations at Rates therein limited; and it being observed that the said Proclamation did not procure the desired Effect, it was, in the Sixth Year of Her present Majesty's Reign, by the Parliament of *England*, Enacted in an Act, Intituled, *An Act Ascertaining the Rates of Foreign Coins in Her Majesty's Plantations in America*, That no Person, after the First Day of *May*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and nine, account, receive, or pay any the several Species of Foreign Silver Coin, mentioned in the said Proclamation, at any greater Rate than at which the same is thereby settled, without being subject to the Pains and Penalties therein mentioned: By which it is conceived that Her Gracious Majesty is desirous to restrain our Neighbouring Plantations under Proprietors from taking such Advantages, as they have hitherto practised against us under Her immediate Commission and Government, in restraining them from advancing the Rates of Silver Coin higher than in the said Proclamation is allowed, and allowing us to come up to the said Rates; It is humbly prayed that it may be Enacted; and be it Enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of Her Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the First Day of *May*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and nine, the several Species of Foreign Silver Coin, mentioned in the said Proclamation, shall pass and be Current in this Province at the Rates therein mentioned; (that is to say) a Piece of Eight of *Sevill*, *Pillar*, and *Mexico*, weighing Seventeen Penny Half-penny Weight, and of Four Shillings and Six Pence intrinsic Value, shall pass Current at Six Shillings: And all other Foreign Coins shall pass proportionably thereto, according to their Weight and Fineness, as by the Table hereunto added is set forth, for the Discharge of any Contracts or Bargains made after the said First Day of *May*, One thousand seven hundred and nine; and likewise shall pass in Payments of all Duties and Impositions, which are for the Defraying the Charges of this Province, and all Officers Fees, which by the Laws are rated in Money.

AND in regard there is at present little other Money in this Province, than the Dollars, commonly called Dog-Dollars, and they being near such Weight and Fineness, as that they would, by the forementioned Proportion, pass at Four Shillings and Six Pence; and the said Inhabitants of this Province being not so well acquainted with other Foreign Coins, nor at present provided with Weights and Scales; It is humbly prayed that it may be Enacted; and be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Dog-Dollars be Current in all Payments, as aforesaid, at Four Shillings and Six Pence, as usual, until such Time as Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, or the General Assembly of this Province, shall otherwise ordain and enact.