

shall not be allowed above Fifteen *per Cent.* for the Damages thereon, besides the Costs, as aforesaid; Any thing before contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

PROVIDED, That this Clause relating to Fifteen *per Cent.* on Bills of Exchange returned protested in Eighteen Months, shall not be in Force till the End of One whole Year after the End of this Session of Assembly.

Pass'd June 3d, 1715.



№ 63. *An Act laying an Imposition on Negroes, and on several sorts of Liquors Imported; and also on Irish Servants, to prevent the Importing too great a Number of Irish Papists into this Province.*

BE it Enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Majesty's Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Province, and the Authority of the same, That from and after the End of this present Session of Assembly, the Importer or Importers of Rum, Wine, Spirits, and Brandy, from *Pensylvania*, 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 *Cecil* 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 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 the Government of this Province, the other Moiety to the Informer, to be recovered in any Court of Record in this Province, by Action of Debt, Bill, Complaint, or Information, wherein no Essoign, 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 aforesaid, That before the said Liquors shall be water-born in *Cheasepeck* Bay, the Importer or Importers shall make Entry thereof upon Oath with the Naval Officer of *Cecil* 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 Damages to be sustained, and no more.

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

AND