

and Discouraging<sup>t</sup> the Enlargement of His Majesty's Dominions in these Parts; all which Inconveniencies this present General Assembly most earnestly desire may be Provided against. And forasmuch as the Quantity of Tobacco, now usually exported, or which may be exported in a Hoghead of the Gauge by this Act settled, exceeds the Quantity which was commonly reputed to be the Contents of a Hoghead, at the Time when the aforesaid Twelve Pence *per* Hoghead was settled on his Lordship's Ancestors, for the making easy the Payment of his Rents and Fines for Alienations aforesaid; and also, for that altho' the Number of Hogheads annually exported are increased since that time, yet, for that the Value of his said Lordship's Rents are much more increased; It is most Humbly pray'd, that it may be Enacted, And 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 Twenty ninth Day of *September* next, there shall be raised, levied, and collected, for every Hoghead of Tobacco that shall be shipped in any Ship or Vessel to be exported out of this Province, or any the Territories, Islands, Ports, Rivers, Creeks, or Places thereunto belonging, the Sum of Eighteen Pence *Sterling*; and for every Hundred Weight of Tobacco in Box, Chest, Barrel, or Case, Three Pence *Sterling*; and so, *pro rato*, for a greater or lesser Quantity, to the King's most Excellent Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the Uses hereafter mentioned, over and above the aforesaid Fifteen Pence *per* Hoghead herein before imposed, in lieu and stead of the Twelve Pence *Sterling* formerly imposed on every Hoghead, and apply'd to the Use of the late Lords Proprietaries: And that the same Duty of Eighteen Pence *per* Hoghead shall, after the Twenty ninth Day of *September* aforesaid, from time to time, be paid and satisfied to the several and respective Naval Officers of this Province for the time being, by the Master or Masters of every such Ship or Vessel respectively, in which any such Tobacco shall be exported on or after the Twenty ninth Day of *September* aforesaid, during the Continuance of this Act, upon his or their Clearing, or taking out his or their Dispatch or Dispatches for every such respective Ship or Vessel, and before the Departure of such Ship or Vessel: And the Master or Masters of every such Ship or Vessel coming into this Province, shall, at their first Arrival here, and before their loading on Board any Goods or Commodities of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of this Province, give good and sufficient Security for the Payment thereof, as is herein before directed. And the said Naval Officers, on Receipt of the Eighteen Pence *per* Hoghead, shall be, and are hereby obliged to render an Account of, and pay the same to the Publick Treasurers of this Province, after the same Manner that they are required to account for and pay the Duties raised to defray the Publick Charge of this Province, to be by such Treasurers accounted for and paid to the Right Honourable *Benedict Leonard* Lord *Baltimore*, Proprietary of this Province, in case he shall be favourably pleased to accept the same, in Consideration of his receiving his Quit Rents and Alienation Fines, during the Continuance of this Act, in Tobacco, at the Rate of Two Pence *Sterling per* Pound, after such Acceptance by his said Lordship, shall be duly signified to this Province: And in case his said Lordship shall not think fit to accept thereof in manner aforesaid, then the said Duties to be apply'd toward the Defraying the Publick Charge of this Province.

PROVIDED always, That in case his Lordship accept of the said Duty of Eighteen Pence *per* Hoghead, on the Consideration aforesaid, that then and in such case it shall and may be lawful for his said Lordship to nominate and appoint such Officer or Officers for the Collection thereof, as to his said Lordship shall seem meet.

PROVIDED also, That from and after the End of this present Session of Assembly, in case of Shipwrack, or taking any Ship or Ships, Vessel or Vessels, so that the Tobacco therein loaden be lost, before the Delivery of the Ship or Vessel