

where, and brought in here protested, more than the Sum of Twenty Pounds per Cent. Damages, over and above the Debt sued for and recovered, together with ordinary Costs of Suit; any Law, Statute, Usage, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

20 per Cent. and Costs of Suit

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Person or Persons draw any Bill of Exchange upon any Person or Persons, or Society or Company in England, or elsewhere, out of this Province, and the same be protested, and the protested Bills be returned into this Province within Four Years after the Date of such Bills, that then the Debt or Damage occasioned by the Non-acceptance or Non-payment of such Bills, shall be accounted a Debt of equal Nature with any Specialty; and in Payment of Debts by Executors or Administrators, be preferred before any other Debt which is not under Hand and Seal; such Executor or Administrator having timely Notice of such protested Bills of Exchange; any Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Bills protested and returned within 4 Years, to be of equal nature with Specialties, and in Payment by Executors and Administrators to be so regarded, on Notice.

Provided nevertheless, That in case any Bills of Exchange to be drawn after the End of this present Sessions of Assembly, that shall be returned into this Province protested, within Eighteen Months from the Date of such Bill, there 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.

But 15 per Cent. on Protests returned within 18 Months.

*An ACT for rectifying the ill Practices of Attorneys of this Province; and ascertaining Fees to the Attorney-General, Clerk of the Indictments, Attorneys and Practitioners of the Law in the Courts of this Province, and for levying the same by Way of Execution.*

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**B**E 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 after the End of this Sessions of Assembly, no Process for any criminal Matter or other Misdemeanour shall issue out of any the Courts of this Province, against any Person or Persons whatsoever, without a Presentment be first found against the said Person or Persons by the Grand-Jury, unless by a special Order of his Excellency the Governour in Council, or of the Provincial or County-courts in this Province: And if the Attorney-General or any other Attorney of the Provincial Court, shall issue forth Process against any Person or Persons, and no Presentment or Order of his Excellency the Governour, in Council, or Order of Courts appear upon Record to justify the same, the said Attorney so offending, shall forfeit and pay for such his Offence the Sum of Five Thousand Pounds of Tobacco, the One Half to his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, towards the Support of Government within this Province, the other Half to the Party grieved, or to him or them that shall inform or sue for the same, to be recovered in the Provincial-Court of this Province, by Bill, Complaint or Information.

No Process to issue in Criminal Matters before a Presentment be found, or Order of Court made thereon

On Pain of 5000 l. of Tobacco.

And if any Clerk of the Indictments in any County-courts of this Province, or any other Attorney practising in the said Courts, shall issue forth Process against any Person or Persons for any criminal Matter or Misdemeanour